

Thatcher firm in face of US sanction vote

Mrs Thatcher said that despite the US Congress vote, she had no intention of imposing tough sanctions on Pretoria...

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

The Prime Minister has no intention of softening her opposition towards sanctions against South Africa in the light of the United States Senate vote...

emphasizing that all countries were free to come to their own policy towards Pretoria.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, echoed Mr Kinnoch's assault: "Yet again we are being treated to the unending spectacle of Mrs Thatcher standing side by side with President Reagan in splendid isolation while Western public opinion is overwhelmingly in favour of sanctions."

The American package includes an embargo on imports of coal, iron, steel, uranium, agricultural produce and textiles - far tougher than EEC

Pretoria moves to defeat air ban

By Harvey Elliott Air Correspondent

South Africa is to increase the number of flights to London in a bid to get round the ban on direct air links with the United States.

British Airways is almost certain to follow suit if the number of passengers flying from Johannesburg to New York via London justifies it.

South African Airways flies four times a week between Johannesburg and New York, using Boeing 747 jumbo jets.

Under the terms of an American embargo they will have to stop by the end of the month when air traffic licences are withdrawn.

A South African Airways spokesman said last night: "We will be re-routing our passengers to New York via London, Frankfurt, Zurich and Lisbon. They will be booked on to other airlines as seats are available."

"Because of the number of passengers which are going to be diverted in this way there will be a need for further aircraft on those routes."

South African Airways, which has a monopoly on the Johannesburg to New York route since PanAm withdrew two years ago, flies about 100,000 passengers a year between South Africa and the United States.

There will be considerable potential for airlines such as British Airways and British Caledonian to pick up those passengers in London and take them on to any destination in America.

Although South Africa was claiming last night that the ban will hurt the national airline, it will lead to a reduction in revenue just at a time when SAA was turning the corner from huge losses towards some profitability.

The airline operates seven flights a week to Britain, while British Airways flies to South Africa nine times a week.

Under the terms of the agreement either airline is free to operate as many flights as it likes, provided there is a rough balance in seats available to each carrier.

British Airways, concerned that further embargoes may be placed on its South African operations, has asked the Civil Aviation Authority for a licence to fly to the neighbouring country of Botswana.

British Caledonian has made a similar application but claims that this is nothing to do with sanctions.

Mr Sam McCuskie, deputy general secretary of the NUS, said yesterday: "There will be industrial action, but because of the law it will not yet be all-out action. It will be wildcat strikes."

The union decided to recommend strike action after the company's decision to cut nearly 500 jobs in the wake of a merger with Channel Island Ferries.

More than 120 of the threatened jobs are held by members of the merchant navy officers' union, also holding a ballot on industrial action.

NUS officials failed yesterday morning to get the crew of the Corbiere at Portsmouth to join the protest. Sailings from Fishguard, Isle of Man, Isle of Wight and Stranraer were operating normally yesterday.

The NUS claimed that 10 of Sealink's 20 ferries operating out of British ports were affected by the dispute.



Still the best: Jack Nicklaus, who earlier this week announced his retirement from full-time tournament golf, on his way to victory over José-Maria Olazabal in the Suntory world match play championship at Westworth yesterday.

Ferry strike talks called for today

By Tim Jones

As wildcat strikes disrupted Sealink's cross Channel and other ferry services yesterday, senior officials of the company agreed to meet National Union of Seamen leaders in London today to discuss an end to the dispute.

Although the result of a strike ballot of 2,600 Sealink employees will not be known until Monday or Tuesday, crewmen at Folkestone, Dover, Harwich and Holyhead yesterday refused to operate the ferries.

Their colleagues at Weymouth, Portsmouth, Guernsey and Cherbourg were continuing to occupy four other ships.

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A national rail strike could be called next week in support of the seamen, Mr Jimmy Knapp, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said yesterday (Richard Evans writes).

His surprise threat was made during the closing stages of the Labour conference in Blackpool, when he disclosed that 100 of his members were amongst those dismissed.

Finance package favours police

By Hugh Clayton

The Government told councils yesterday that it would contribute an extra £1,000 million to their spending next year. It also included in a complicated package of financial measures an important stimulus for English councils to spend more on the recruitment of police officers.

That set the police apart from other local government services for which ministers decided that councils did not need to spend as much as they were expected to.

The police were removed from restraints placed on other services after negotiations between the Department of the Environment and the Home Office.

The total establishment for the 43 non-metropolitan police forces in England and Wales in July this year was 63,468. The number of officers available for ordinary police duties was only 62,975.

Although total police manpower has risen slightly this year after a slight drop in 1985, the number of police cadets has dropped steadily from more than two million five years ago to fewer than 350,000 this year.

The local government finance package announced yesterday by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, continues the Government's policy of maintaining its share of council spending at 46 per cent after cutting it steadily in the early 1980s.

The package also added 3.75 per cent to current council spending for next year to bring it up to £25,200 million.

"This settlement should, on average, allow no or very low increases in rate bills if local authorities budget responsibly", Mr Ridley said.

Council finance specialists, who began the long task of working out the impact of the settlement in individual town halls, suggested yesterday that it would have the same effect as the package now operating - that of channelling some grant away from the shires to the inner cities.

But they agreed that the overall effect of the changes planned by Mr Ridley for next year would be less harsh than those of the early 1980s. In the past two years the Conservatives have suffered a steady series of defeats in council elections, and have lost control of several former bastions including Devon and the London borough of Hillingdon.

But Mr Ridley made it clear that overspending would continue to be penalized through the rate-capping of 20 Labour-led authorities.

Exclusive next week



In schools, out schools

Finding a school can be a lottery, with crucial facts hard to get. The Times serialises a book which gets behind the glossy brochures to ask key questions:

At up to £5,000 a year, are you likely to get value for money?

Just how good is the headmaster?

What results does the school achieve? What are its hidden weaknesses?

Mansell, by Hunt



James Hunt, Britain's last Formula One world champion, with a unique insider's view of Nigel Mansell, favourite this year

Too cheap to miss



Buy The Times on four days next week and you'll get a chance to do your Christmas shopping in France, for just £5 return. Watch for the daily coupon

Order your Times now

Labour confident of outright victory

By Philip Webster and Martin Fletcher

The Labour Party yesterday rounded off its most successful conference in years with a confident Mr Neil Kinnock declaring that it could now win an outright victory at the next general election.

After a week which has seen Labour achieve a genuine unity for the first time in a decade, Mr Kinnock's judgement was shared by shadow cabinet colleagues who hitherto privately declared such an outcome to be impossible.

Mr Kinnock, who ends the conference in a position of impregnable authority, said that he was ready for a general election at any time, and the sooner the better.

He said that Labour had achieved a "solid and determined" unity, "if it was cosmetic it would not be worth much, it would not withstand the first pressure. This unity will withstand all pressures."

He repeated his pledge not to enter a coalition with the Alliance parties. "What we then inherit will be an economic disaster, and sitting around waiting for the needs of this David or that David would be daft."

Mr Kinnock said: "We can win the next general election outright. People who thought that totally unlikely three years ago are now having to change their tune."

Bucked by the final rout of the Liverpool Militants, the Labour leadership emerged from the conference, stage-managed in unprecedented fashion to avoid damaging disruption, having secured overwhelming backing for all its main policy shifts.

The party has moved to the left on defence, on which it now has an unqualified non-nuclear policy.

But it has moved quietly to the right on other issues. Outright nationalization has been replaced by a concept called social ownership, union ballots on strikes and executive elections have been backed.

The Labour leadership suffered one of its few defeats of the week yesterday when the conference blocked moves to change the means of selecting MPs before the next election.

Portfolio Gold - £28,000 to be won

There is £28,000 to be won today in The Times Portfolio Gold competition. The weekly prize is £24,000, triple the usual amount because of two previous weeks without winners, and there is the daily prize of £4,000.

Yesterday's daily total was £5,000 because there was no winner on Thursday and was shared by two readers: Mr R. Newman of Burnley, Lancs, and Mrs R.M. Beech of Lechlade, Glos. Details, page 3.

Portfolio lists, pages 20, 25; rules and how to play, page 38.

Hostage in video plea

The kidnapers of Mr Terry Anderson, the US journalist abducted 19 months ago in Beirut, have released a video tape in which he appeals to President Reagan to help US hostages in Lebanon. Page 5

In the pipeline

After TSB the City is now speculating on the share that investors can expect from the British Gas flotation. Family Money, pages 26 to 33

THF inquiry

Trusthouse Forte's £200 million purchase of the Happy Eater chain of roadside restaurants from Hanson Trust is to be investigated by the Monopolies Commission. Page 21

Rugby ban

The Welsh Rugby Union has suspended for the rest of the season David Bishop, who broke the jaw of a Newport player. Page 40

Table with 2 columns: News, Law Report. Includes items like News 2-4, Law Report 25, News 5-6, Letters 9, etc.

South Africa's route to the USA

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Rates fear as pound falls again

The pound suffered again on the foreign exchanges yesterday as it fell to new lows in the absence of central bank support.

The money markets are still anticipating a rise in base rates, perhaps as early as next week, to support sterling despite the determination of the Government to hold the present level.

The pound fell to DM2.871, a record low, from the previous low level of DM2.871 - on Thursday, its trade-weighted index, measuring sterling against a basket of currencies, also reached a new low for the third time this week, at 68.0, down 0.1 from the previous day, before recovering to close at 68.2. Another fall, page 21

Celtic face fear over Chernobyl

Celtic, drawn yesterday to play the Soviet side Dynamo Kiev in the second round of the European Cup, may request UEFA to switch the second leg of the tie.

The Scottish champions were advised by the Foreign Office that Kiev was still a no go area for visitors because of the effects of the Chernobyl disaster.

Mr David Hay, the Celtic manager, said he had expressed concern about the effects of radiation at Kiev when the draw was known and the club will listen to government advice before they make plans to fly to Russia on November 5.

A Celtic spokesman said last night that his club would be relieved if the game were switched to another venue.

There was absolutely no truth, Mr Wright assured us, flicking a speck of his dashingly cut pin-striped suit, in rumours that men of the Special Boat Squadron would be standing by offshore.

The photographers were then allowed to shoot a few frames of Blue, a friendly springer spaniel who will be hard at work sniffing for explosives from Monday.

Over the road in the famous Winter Gardens, late holiday-makers dozed in the sun and Bournemouth's well dressed matrons made their rounds of the smart shopping arcades.

'Sick' firemen investigated

By a Staff Reporter

A special team advised by Scotland Yard has been investigating injury claims by London firemen totalling £4-million over the past year.

The team was formed when current injury claims reached a total of £1.5-million in personal injury claims and £2.5-million in communication pensions.

A spokesman for the London Fire Brigade said that between 12 to 20 cases had been investigated so far and six claims had been contested.

As a result, one fireman who had claimed £90,000 was eventually awarded only £5,000.

The surveillance unit used an unmarked van to observe the supposedly ill firefighters at home. In three months since the investigation was launched 250 people were off sick and claiming from the brigade.

The spokesman said that the brigade was "extremely concerned" about high levels of injury and long-term sickness.

Prim resort awaits Tories with guns and dogs

By Philip Jacobson

It seemed all wrong, on a glorious autumn day by the seaside, to be talking of bomb squads and sniffer dogs, of rooftop marksmen and armed police patrols.

But this was Bournemouth on the eve of the Conservative Party conference and ever since that bomb went off at Brighton, along the coast to the east, gatherings of this nature, are, alas, to be accompanied by security operations of ever-increasing scope, complexity and cost.

Certainly Bournemouth - quiet, prosperous, dare one even say a little prim? - will never have seen anything like it. The Young Conservatives were here a couple of years ago, the Labour Party last year.

Bournemouth may attract large numbers of holiday-makers every year, but as an essential placid and orderly sort of place, not at all like raffish Brighton (there are no jokes about naughty weekends in Boscombe).

There is also local concern about the cost of all this security. Inside estimates reckon about £1 million, to be split equally between the county of Dorset, that is to say the ratepayers, and the central government.

After a rotten summer season, a lot of people here are counting the pennies, unlike the Conservative Party, which is believed to be getting the Conference Centre for free.

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NEWS SUMMARY

'Adopt a head' companies told

Companies should develop much stronger links with schools and if necessary adopt a head teacher, Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education, said yesterday (Mark Dowd writes). "Very few employers have friends who are teachers," he said.

'Onedin' Hooligan port sold appeal

Charlestown, the Cornish port featured in the *The Onedin Line* television series, has been sold for more than £2 million. Control of the 18th century village, which includes about 160 properties and houses, has been with the local Crowder family for more than 150 years through their shareholding in the Charlestown Estate Company.

Khan's final appeal

The leader of the Kashmir Liberation Front in Britain yesterday lost his High Court battle to stay in this country. Mr Amanullah Khan, who has lived in Britain since 1976, has one last chance to appeal.

US role for actor

Colm Wilkinson, the Irish actor and singer, (right) has been chosen to lead an otherwise all-American cast when the musical *Les Misérables* transfers to Broadway early next year (Gavin Bell writes).



Soap pair beat royals

The public life of *Lofty and Michelle of EastEnders* has beaten the private life of the Prince and Princess of Wales in the television ratings.

Overtime ban threat to Rover recovery

By Craig Seton Production of Rover's new flagship car, the Rover 800, was halted yesterday when supplies of electrical components to the state-owned car makers ran out.

drivers employed by the component supplier, Lucas, in support of a pay claim, stopped delivery of headlamps and rear light units.

expected to be sold in the first year. Mr Bob Dale, managing director of Lucas Electrical, yesterday met officials representing 11,000 workers throughout the UK.

US studying nuclear arms relocation if ordered out

By Peter Davenport, Defence Correspondent American officials conceded yesterday that all their nuclear weapons could be removed from Britain within a year if a Labour Government issued the orders on taking office.

Stradivarius mystery



Richard Steel holding the remains of his £20 violin yesterday.

By Robin Young

Richard Steel might have been overjoyed on discovering that his violin bore the label of Antonio Stradivarius - had the instrument not been reduced to matchwood under the wheels of an Alder Valley bus.

town), the Rode, the Hochstein, the Titian, the Emperor, and the Baron Knop.

varius has survived complete disintegration. The Red Diamond of 1732 was swept out to sea off California in the 1950s and found on a beach in pieces.

It would, according to sources, be "very difficult but not impossible". However rather than simply ship the weapons across the Atlantic, the administration would seek to negotiate to put many of them in other Nato countries.

Publicly, senior members of the administration in Washington will continue to issue warnings of the dangers they see in a British non-nuclear defence policy, but privately they do not expect to change the mind of Mr Neil Kinnock and his colleagues.

Confidence reports, page 4

'More say' in cancer treatment

By Jill Sherman

The 150,000 women in Britain suffering from breast cancer should have a much greater say in their treatment, a panel of health experts said in London yesterday.

School fee 'bias' is denied

By Mark Ellis

A London private school yesterday defended its policy of charging foreign executives of multi-national companies a year's fees in advance for their children's education.

Print picket jailed for attack on PC

A Sogat picket was jailed for three months yesterday by Southend magistrates for assaulting a policeman.

BR misses business deadline

By Jonathan Miller, Media Correspondent

The British Railways Board has missed its deadline for selling its advertising business.

Post dispute settled

The eight-year dispute between the *Nottingham Evening Post* and National Union of Journalists was formally ended yesterday with the signing of an agreement between the NUJ and the management.

Mirror plea refused

A High Court judge yesterday refused to drop contempt of court proceedings against two National Graphical Association officials without an apology.

Architectural divisions

By Charles Knevitt, Architecture Correspondent

Mr Rod Hackney, a community architect and adviser to the Prince of Wales, announced yesterday that he will stand for the presidency of the Royal Institute of British Architects, against Mr Raymond Andrews, the official nomination of the council.

Prince's adviser in poll challenge

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TOWN & COUNTRY BUILDING SOCIETY advertisement with interest rate tables for Super 60, Supershares, and Moneywise Cheque Account & Visa Card.

FORCED DISPOSAL HIGHLY IMPORTANT PUBLIC AUCTION

of several hundred exceptionally fine and medium quality, handmade PERSIAN CARPETS RUGS AND RUNNERS

Advertisement for a public auction of Persian carpets and rugs, including details of the auctioneer and location.

Tories call for sale of Post Office

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

A commitment to sell off the coal and electricity industries and the Post Office should be included in the next Conservative Party manifesto, the Monday Club, the right-wing ginger group, said yesterday.

The suggestion is made in a policy pamphlet written by Mr George Gardiner, MP for Reigate, who says he is appointed by the limited number of targets for privatization in the next parliament.

The pamphlet argues that the coal and power industries should be sold off in stages, with the coal-fired stations being sold with the supplying pits.

And it envisages the newly privatized power stations competing to sell electricity to a national grid run by a residual state authority.

The Post Office would lose its letter monopoly under the plan, which also urges increased franchising of British Rail services.

But the group is critical of the method used to sell off British Gas, arguing that by disposing of it wholesale, a public monopoly is being transformed into a private one - a step that cannot give full rein to competitive market forces.

It calls for a new unit to be set up under the Chief Secretary to the Treasury to draw up plans for privatizing the remaining state firms.

Mr Norman Lamont, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, is expected to revive Conservative plans to sell off the water authorities at next week's party conference by making their disposal a manifesto commitment.

A Monday Club pamphlet by Mr Harvey Proctor, Conservative MP for Billericay, warned yesterday that race relations in Britain were at the "eighth hour" and reiterated calls for an end to black immigration; a crack-down on illegal immigration and voluntary resettlement of people of New Commonwealth and Pakistani origin.

Rewards for pay restraint

By George Hill

A cut in National Insurance contributions for employees who resist high wage claims would create twice as many new jobs as the cuts in personal taxation planned by the Government, Mr Ian Wrigglesworth, Social Democratic spokesman on economic affairs, said yesterday.

He told a London conference on pay that high wage settlements, combined with the pound's fall against the dollar threatened Britain with a new round of inflation.

A tax-cutting Budget and a "cut-and-run" election next year could leave an incoming Government with a legacy of rising inflation, hampering efforts to reduce unemployment, Mr Wrigglesworth said.

"If Britain is to close the gap in unit costs between us and our competitors, then the level of earnings growth must be halved. On that basis we believe an incomes strategy is desirable and necessary."

"An across-the-board cut in employers' NI contributions would cost the same as the Chancellor's plans to cut the basic rate of income tax by 2%."

Large vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, mentioning 'Bamber of fast family' and 'Stud knife'.

Bamber 'talked of fast car' as family lay dead

By Michael Horsnell

Jeremy Bamber, the farmer's son, chatted about his dreams of a fast car and of his fears for his family's safety as police prepared for nearly four hours to storm a farmhouse they suspected concealed an armed killer.

But all the time inside White House Farm, the prosecution in the "Bambi" murder trial has alleged, lay the bodies of five members of the family whom Mr Bamber, aged 25, had killed only hours earlier with a .22 rifle.

The story of his cool demeanour as police waited to move in was given to the jury yesterday at Chelmsford Crown Court where Mr Bamber has pleaded not guilty to murdering his adoptive parents, Mr Neville Bamber and his wife June, both aged 61, his half sister, Sheila "Bambi" Caffall, a former model, aged 27, and her twin sons aged six.

Later, a police surgeon told the court of an alleged family argument at the farmhouse near Tolleshunt D'Arce, Essex, which Mr Jeremy Bamber reported to him in conversation after the discovery of the bodies.

Dr Iain Craig said: "The previous evening there had been considerable discussion about the future of the children."

"Not for the first time the question of their being fostered had been raised and Mr Bamber said it had been

Told his father had been killed, Jeremy broke down and cried

alleged on occasions the children had suffered non-accidental injury, in other words child abuse. The family was concerned about their welfare.

"I asked if it had been reported to the police and social services, and he said no. He made it clear the row was about the twins."

Mr Bamber, who also allegedly told Dr Craig of his sister's mental illness, apparently vomited during the walk they stared.

Dr Craig, who certified the deaths of all five, said he gave Mr Bamber, who appeared to

be in a state of shock, a whisky before telling police he was fit to be interviewed.

He added: "Jeremy said 'Why can't my father come?' I said, 'Because he has been killed.' He broke down and cried."

Earlier in the day Det Constable Stephen Myall told the jury about Mr Bamber's dream of a company Porsche which would replace the Vauxhall Astra which he drove.

Det Constable Myall said: "I was talking to him in a sympathetic way. We talked about motor cars. He said he wanted to obtain a Porsche. I wanted to keep his mind as far away from the house as possible."

Mr Bamber had arrived at the scene of the murders from his home in the hamlet of Goldhanger near by after informing the police that his father had telephoned to say his half sister, Sheila, had gone berserk with a gun.

One of the things he told officers, who initially believed Sheila had committed the murders before killing herself, was that she had made previous attempts on her own life.

The police officer said: "He seemed remarkably calm considering the information relayed to us at the time. His demeanour never changed dramatically."

Meanwhile officers from the tactical firearms unit of Essex police moved in to the eighteenth century farmhouse nearly four hours after being alerted to the emergency.

Armed officers knocked down a kitchen door with a sledgehammer before moving in and found the body of Mr Neville Bamber with gunshot wounds and the rest of the family upstairs: the victims of 25 shots, most of them from close range.

After telling police of his divorced sister's mental history, Mr Bamber was overheard by another officer, Police Constable Robin Norcup, muttering to himself "Oh God, I hope she has not done anything silly."

Inspector Douglas Adams also told the jury of seven men and five women about a conversation with Mr Bamber

in which a means of establishing a rapport with the former model could be achieved in the event of police trying to lift a siege in which she was involved.

The officer said: "Mr Bamber said that she might want to speak to a Dr Ferguson from Harley Street who had treated her, and that she liked to be told she was pretty."

Mr Bamber had told him that the night before, when he left the 300-acre farm to go

Sheila's well manicured hand could not have fired the weapon

home, he had left a loaded rifle inside the kitchen door after going out briefly to shoot rabbits, though in the event he had not fired a shot.

Under cross-examination by Mr Geoffrey Rivlin, QC, Mr Adams agreed that Mr Bamber had remarked at one stage: "What, if anything, has happened in there? They are all the family I have got."

PC Lawrence Collins told the jury that for two hours, in ignorance of the scene inside the farmhouse, they challenged the household with a loud hailer but all they could hear was a dog barking inside.

Inspector Ivor Montgomery told the court that after the initial entry of armed officers into the farmhouse from the tactical firearms unit, police removed the rifle used in the murders from its position across Sheila's chest to render it safe.

In doing so, they moved her right hand. He noticed that her hand was well manicured and clean, and a sign, the prosecution has alleged, that she could not have fired the weapon.

Miss Julie Foakes, the daughter of a farm labourer who was working for Mr Neville Bamber, told the jury that the day before the murders, she had seen Sheila and her twins, Nicholas and Daniel, walking happily through woods with the dog near by.

They seemed to be happy and she found Sheila a "very loving sort of mother". The hearing continues



Joseph Arditi (left) and Dominic Isaacs, both aged four and from Golders Green, north London, enjoying a cup of tea at the start of the world's largest tea party yesterday. The first cup was poured at Claridges Hotel, but more than 300 parties will be held in Britain during the next month to raise £100,000 for NSPCC child protection centres. Lady Rosamund Holland-Martin, society chairman, said there was still time for people to take part. (Photograph: Graham Wood)

'Wedding' day ends in court

A woman who became betrothed with her solicitor turned up in a wedding outfit in a chauffeur-driven limousine at his office yesterday.

But Mrs Jemmy Mogford's desperate attempt for the hand of Mr Terry Allen once again landed her in Bristol Magistrates' Court.

Mrs Mogford, aged 38, a mother of two children, fell in love with Mr Allen when he acted for her in her divorce. He told the court that for the past two weeks, the "infatuated" woman had refused to leave him alone.

Earlier this week, Mrs Mogford, of Coniston Road, Patchway, Bristol, was bound over for six months in the sum of £50 after a campaign of pestering Mr Allen.

The hearing was delayed while a solicitor was found for Mrs Mogford, who insisted that only Mr Allen should represent her. Eventually she appeared, still clutching the single white rose from her wedding suit.

She admitted breaching the peace and was again bound over.

Mr Malcolm Hayes, for the prosecution, said: "It is understood that Mrs Mogford has formed the intention of marrying Mr Allen."

"It would seem that this morning, Mrs Mogford went to Mr Allen's premises... fully prepared for a wedding and having apparently arranged and brought the wedding car."

Mr Hayes added that Mrs Mogford refused to leave and the police had to be called.

Throughout the hearing Mrs Mogford, unemployed, stared repeatedly at Mr Allen, who was sitting at the back of the court. She was not represented and declined to explain her actions.

After the case, Mr Allen, aged 40, a married man, said: "I have known her for about a year but in the last couple of weeks for some reason she's got really infatuated with me."

"She's even camped herself on my front lawn, and threatened to come in and tell my wife that we are having an affair."

As Mrs Mogford left the court, she asked: "Where is he? I still want to go out with him."

Mrs Sue Allen, the solicitor's wife, later said: "I suppose it's an occupational hazard. He has told me about it from the start and at first I roared with laughter but now it has gone beyond a joke."

Mrs Jenny Mogford, "infatuated client".

Air fares Agreement a little nearer

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Europe's transport ministers inched towards an agreement aimed at liberalizing air fares last night.

But their progress was too slow for the Dutch delegation, which decided, in advance, that it was more important to attend the opening of a dam in The Netherlands.

Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, who is president of the Council of Ministers this year, tried to put a brave face on the progress which had been made.

"We established that we could move away from the two separate camps which were clearly developing in the attitude towards liberalizing air transport."

"There seems to be a recognition that we now are in a position to put forward a

concrete set of proposals for discussion when we next meet in November and this could have considerable potential impact."

The ministers, meeting in London, studied three main areas of potential liberalization. The first related to capacity - the number of seats available on any given route and the market share

Britain and The Netherlands had been looking originally for a split which would have allowed any one country to provide up to 75 per cent of the available seats. But this was fiercely resisted and it now seems unlikely that, at least in the next two years, the most successful airline will be able to provide more than 55 per cent.

In the third year, the min-

isters reluctantly agreed, this might rise to 60 per cent.

Agreement was reached on allowing more than one national airline from each country to operate on any given route and for airlines to open up routes to regional centres.

The third proposal discussed yesterday, the vexed question of tariffs and fares, led to some measure of movement but with huge areas of disagreement still to be resolved.

Mr Moore said that the aim remained still to bring real competition into Europe's air transport by 1992.

He added: "There is a great deal of further work to do and it can only be achieved if all countries keep up the political will which was widely demonstrated today."

Ex-governor will fight 'race' ban

By David Cross

A former school governor who has been banned from interviewing applicants for a headteacher's job by the Labour council in Brent, north-west London, said yesterday that she was determined to reverse the "totally unjustified" decision.

Mrs Maureen Geldman, a Conservative opposition councillor, has been accused of "racist body language" during an interview with Mr Hilario Surtie, the only black candidate for the headship of Frynt Junior School in Kingsbury where her own children used to be pupils.

She concedes that she shuffled her papers and looked at her watch, but denies any racial motive. "The interviews were running two hours late and I had an appointment to

keep with my daughter."

Mrs Geldman said it was only afterwards that Mrs Bertha Joseph, a black Labour councillor, objected to her behaviour. "She protested that it was a racist attempt to distract the candidate." Her accusation was supported by Miss Soona Engineer, Brent's race relations adviser, who was there to ensure fair play.

Mrs Geldman, who is Jewish, said that it was ridiculous to accuse her of racism. "But I was the only Conservative in the room and they always pick on us."

She had since learnt that a new panel would be formed to interview prospective candidates for the post. "I have asked Brent council for a full report on the meeting and I fully intend to be there."

Midwife in baby death reinstated

A midwife suspended after being accused of "appalling professional judgement" in a report into the death of a girl aged three days, has returned to general nursing duties.

The dead girl's father said after an inquest at Westminster, central London, yesterday that he would take legal action unless the hospital carried out recommendations in the report after an internal inquiry.

Shera Adatia died from birth asphyxia in Westminster Hospital on March 17, after being transferred from Perivale Maternity Hospital at Greenford, west London.

The confidential report made 20 recommendations concerning the training of maternity staff, alterations in procedure and changes in labour ward accommodation.

In his summing up Dr Paul Knapman, the coroner, said that there had been a series of "unfortunate events during the birth". He wondered if the words of censure in the report were too strong.

Maguire 'used by informer'

An Irishman accused of taking part in an IRA bomb plot was "merely used" by the man he regarded as a father, it was claimed at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Mr Mansfield said Mr Maguire's "father figure" - Mr Raymond O'Connor - was a liar. Mr O'Connor, a Irishman living in Blackpool and now an IRA informer, told the jury that Mr Maguire, aged 27, acted as go-between

Mr Maguire, whose mother lives in Blackpool, denies conspiring with Patrick Magee, the Brighton bomber, and with Patrick Murray and others to cause an explosion.

The trial was adjourned until Monday.

Navy fines athlete over hair

Jim Nowak, the Olympic pentathlete, was found guilty by a Royal Navy court martial yesterday of disobeying an order to get his hair cut.

A hearing at Portsmouth was told that Nowak had put athletics ahead of his naval duties as a leading physical trainer on HMS Nelson.

Nowak, aged 30, who represented Britain in the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles, was fined £300 and stripped of three good conduct badges. He was charged with disobeying through neglect an order to get his hair cut and report to a superior in uniform shoes.

Nowak was accused of only wetting his hair after the orders to get it cut, and of wearing "American-style" shoes instead of service shoes.

But he was cleared of a charge of disobeying an order to remove a broken horse box from HMS Dryad.

The court was told that Nowak, of Portsmouth, received outstanding reports in the Falklands but had asked to leave the Navy to concentrate on the 1988 Olympics.

"His career as an athlete has become more important to him than the Navy," Lt Cdr Jeff Blackett, for the defence, said.

Portfolio Gold Winner to save share of prize

Two readers share yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £8,000.

Mr Raymond Newman, aged 51, a welder of Burnley, Lancashire, has played the Portfolio Gold game regularly for the past six months.

He described his win as "magic". Mr Newman said that he would put the prize money in his building society account. "It is going to make a very nice little cushion," he said.

The other winner was Mrs R M Beech, of Lechlade, Gloucestershire.

Readers who wish to play the game can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.

Producer on art charge

Gennady Zalkowitsch, a Soviet film producer, was granted a £15,000 bail at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court in London yesterday, accused of handling £500,000 worth of stolen Islamic works of art.

Mr Zalkowitsch, aged 46, who lives in Fulham Road, Fulham, south-west London, and has produced a BBC World documentary on the Brazilian raft people, was bailed for committal proceedings after spending a week in custody on remand.

Squash player stole to play

A county squash player stole £37,000 from her father's finance company, where she worked as company secretary, to pay for her sport expenses, Worcester Crown Court was told yesterday.

Dawn Hicks, aged 28, of High Street, Ambicote, Stourbridge, West Midlands, who admitted charges of theft, false accounting and forgery, was jailed for 18 months with 15 months suspended.

Drink surgeon loses licence

A surgeon who drove after comforting a friend with cancer over a champagne dinner was yesterday banned from driving and fined £200 by Horseferry Road magistrates.

Criton Pavlou, a gynaecology expert aged 46, of Dulwich, south-east London, admitted driving with excess alcohol in his breath in Fimlico when answering an emergency call.

Policeman's shoe fetish

A policeman's fantasy for women's shoes led to a series of attacks on women of all ages, sometimes threatening to kill them, the High Court in Edinburgh was told yesterday.

PC Charles Hay, aged 37, married with two children, formerly of Musselburgh, Leith, was jailed for five years after admitting 13 charges of assault.

Trench death

A workman was buried alive at the Beazer construction site, Worle, near Weston-super-Mare, Avon, yesterday after a trench he was working in collapsed.

Moves to reform law of trespass

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Legal reforms to help landowners and farmers to recover their land more quickly from trespassers were canvassed yesterday in a consultation paper from the Lord Chancellor's department.

In the wake of the problems caused by the hippie "peace convoy" in the summer, it sets out changes to civil procedures so that landowners can take the necessary legal steps more speedily and the cases can be heard sooner.

At present, a final order for possession may be made five days after the application has been served on the trespassers, or sooner in urgent cases. The paper proposes that this should be cut to three days, with the power to shorten the remaining period.

It also urges changes to make it easier to serve the application on the trespassers occupying the land.

At present there is provision where trespassers' names are not known, simply to nail the application on to gateposts or fence posts, but the farmer has to obtain a specific direction from the court.

It is proposed that this should be possible without the need to seek the court's direction.

The paper also suggests that most cases should be heard by a master or registrar instead of a judge, but where necessary cases could be transferred to be heard by a judge.

The "hippie convoy" showed present procedures to be too slow, too complicated. Similar defects were highlighted in the criminal law and the Home Office has already tabled a new clause to the Public Order Bill which creates a criminal offence where trespassers insist on remaining on land when asked to go, intend to reside there, and where there has been damage or harassment.

School staff accused

Eight former employees of a private school for mentally handicapped children in Powys appeared before Newtown magistrates yesterday accused of ill-treating pupils.

Another alleged to have committed similar offences at Hall School in Tregynon during 1983 and 1984 was not in court. The bench decided that the cases should be tried in the crown court, but adjourned committal proceedings.

Student tells of knifepoint rape

A student was raped at knifepoint by a man wearing a "cowboy bandit" mask at the height of the riots in Brixton, south-west London, last September, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The student said that she froze with fear when the gang broke into a house in Stockwell. "I was so frightened I was trying to think of places to hide, but I couldn't think of any," she said.

One of the gang had taken a gold ring from her finger, given to her by her grandmother. Another took her to the sitting room to steal from her handbag while the others searched the house, holding her boyfriend and two other men at knifepoint.

The girl said that when she tried to leave, the masked man threatened her with a knife and said he was going to rape her. "He told me not to look at his face, which was half covered with a scarf."

She said the red-patterned scarf was worn like a "cowboy bandit".

During her ordeal she heard her boyfriend, who had been brought into the room at knifepoint by another of the gang, say, "Oh my God! not that!"

The ordeal ended when the four mistook a car alarm for a police siren and fled.

Miss Ann Goddard, QC, for the prosecution, has alleged that when the man accused of the rape was arrested, he said: "They were rich, we did not have enough money."

"Your officer shot a black woman. Everyone was trying to get their own back. Just charge me."

The man, aged 23, has pleaded not guilty to charges of robbery and rape. Richard Leslie, aged 21, a presser, and Michael Griffiths, aged 22, a tailor's cutter, both of Union Road, South Lambeth, south London, both deny robbery.

The case continues on Monday.

Video camera filmed raid, court told

A looter was arrested after being filmed ransacking a newsagents during the Brixton riots last year, a court was told.

About 12 youths, most of whom had their faces covered with scarves or handkerchiefs, burst into the Clapham High Street shop, demanded money and helped themselves to stock, Mr Andrew Mitchell, for the prosecution, told Southwark Crown Court.

Mr Mitchell said Wesley Barnett, aged 21, was the only one whose face was shown clearly on the shop's video.

Glaziers 'turned to looting'

Glaziers called in during the riots in Tottenham, north London, to repair damage caused by looters to a clothes shop were themselves stealing property, Wood Green Crown Court was told yesterday.

Richard McDonald, aged 20, an office clerk, of Woodberry Down Estate, Finsbury Park, pleaded guilty to entering Dunn & Co. on October 7 last year. He was remanded on bail for a month for reports.

Dunn & Co lost goods worth more than £9,000.

Mr Nigel Lampert, defending, claimed that those repairing the shop were stealing property and when McDonald and friends walked past the glaziers told them to "help themselves".

A subsidiary firm of the National Freight Company cheated British Rail out of several million pounds to increase its own profits, a court was told yesterday.

Senior management of Fleetcare summoned their depot managers to a seminar at King's Cross in London and ordered them to inflate the charges of work done for British Rail by adding on costs for labour charges.

Leicester Crown Court heard how Fleetcare had been running at a loss and it wanted to exploit its contract for maintaining and servicing British Rail vehicles to turn the deficit into a profit.

David Martin, aged 43, of Watergall, Bretton, Peterborough, admitted nine charges of falsifying accounts between September 1982 and September 1983 when he was depot manager at Fleetcare's Leicester branch. He was conditionally discharged for two years.

Mr Anthony Hacking, for

Firm 'cheated BR out of millions of pounds'

British Transport Police, said Fleetcare had a contract with British Rail to service and maintain its 7,000 vehicles.

In September 1982, Martin and other depot managers were summoned to a seminar in London where they were told to inflate the charges.

"In the view of the officers who carried out the investigations, this was a profitable fraud at all the depots. The overall loss to British Rail, they estimated, was about

several million pounds," Mr Hacking said.

Mr Gerard Elias, QC, for the defence, said that Martin was still employed by the firm but had left the Leicester branch in 1983.

Mr Elias said that Martin and his counterparts had been ordered to add either £5 or 5 per cent to each invoice sent out. He added that Martin had gone along with the instructions of his bosses because he feared for his job if his depot had continued to run at a loss.

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LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

Selection system

Charter for shipyards

Travel costs

No change in reselection until after next election

There will be no change in the method of selecting parliamentary candidates and reselecting MPs until after the next election, the conference insisted at Blackpool yesterday.



Labour's top table in full voice at the end of the party conference in Blackpool yesterday.

Scrap-and-build policy plea

The next Labour Government should adopt a policy of scrapping British merchant ships and building new ones in British yards, Mr Dennis Skinner, MP, said when replying for the NEC in a short debate on shipbuilding.

MEDIA DEBATE

Curbs on foreign ownership sought

Labour would develop policies to prevent the unacceptably high concentration of media control in too few hands, Mr Gordon Colling told delegates during the debate.

TRANSPORT

Act giving 'freedom of roads' deplored

The erosion of public transport services as a result of Conservative policies and the Act last year which allowed for the deregulation of bus services, were condemned in a motion carried by the conference.

CAMPAIGNING

Clarity seen as the key

A composite motion on party campaigning which said that the party's policies must be presented in a straightforward, honest and easily understood way in the run-up to the general election, was endorsed.

IMMIGRATION

Pressure for visas debate

Labour would force a debate in Parliament on the decision to introduce visa requirements for immigrants from the Indian sub-continent and Africa, and would impose a three-line whip, Mr Gerald Kaufman, shadow Home Secretary, told conference delegates.

Eclipse of the hard-line left

The Labour conference ended in Blackpool yesterday with the party's hard left reduced to impotence. Its influence on the week's debates extended little further than isolated, ritualistic diatribes from the rostrum on such issues as police oppression, the need for black sections or British withdrawal from Northern Ireland.

Advertisement for 'The South Bank Show' featuring a list of artists and their works, including Truman Capote, John Mortimer, Aida, Itzhak Perlman, Fay Godwin, Roald Dahl, George V. Higgins, Terence Conran, and Michael Powell.

Reports by Alan Wood, Robert Morgan, John Winder, Anthony Hodges, Howard Underwood.

Sale room £1 note goes for £4,070

Christie's found itself with a failure in its hands when it offered the William H. Pheasant collection of British Commonwealth bank notes for sale. It sold £59,000 worth, but 42 per cent was left unsold.

Solicitors study payment by result as cuts threaten fees

The Government was warned yesterday that the Law Society is to examine the idea of solicitors being paid according to results in the light of proposals to restrict legal aid funds.

Consumers 'worse off' under centres scheme

Reform of the legal aid system is essential, but it cannot be done on the cheap and must not be done overnight, the National Consumer Council says today.

Legal aid

awarded to them to a fund which is then used to pay for borderline cases or other cases where legal aid is not available.

Consumer centres scheme

Solicitors were expert in matters such as divorce and personal injury compensation, while advice centres tended to be more knowledgeable about claims for welfare benefits, landlord-tenant law, and small claims.

Advertisement for 'The South Bank Show' edited and presented by Melvyn Bragg, Sunday Night at 10:30 on LW/T.

Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, mentioning 'Air of optimism', 'Corbachov', 'all nucle', 'Reykjav', 'Expulsion order', 'band reporter in', 'Lebanon host', and 'Cabans' farew'.

Air of optimism in Moscow

Gorbachov makes ban on all nuclear tests a top Reykjavik priority

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Soviet Union yesterday indicated that it would be making the achievement of a mutual ban on all nuclear tests a leading priority when Mr Gorbachov meets President Reagan next weekend for two days of talks in the Icelandic capital of Reykjavik.

Expulsion order postponed

From Zoriana Pysariwsky New York

In what appears to be a concession, the US has agreed to postpone the October 1 deadline for the recall of 25 members of the Soviet mission to the United Nations.

Second reporter in frame-up scare

Moscow — Less than a week after the release of Mr Nicholas Daniloff, another Western correspondent said yesterday that he had been the victim of an attempt by the Soviet security authorities to try to frame him (Christopher Walker writes).

Bitter attack on Reagan in Lebanon hostage's tape

By Robert Fisk, Middle East Correspondent

Terry Anderson has grown thinner. His face is leamer, balanced by a large but well-trimmed beard. On a videotape which his kidnappers released yesterday, his features appeared pale. He did not smile once. But there was no doubting the message which the bureau chief of the Associated Press in Beirut — abducted 19 months ago on his way home from a game of tennis — was making.

Abducted Syrian envoy freed

Damascus (Reuters) — A Syrian diplomat, Mr Ayad Mahmoud, abducted by gunmen in Tehran, was no longer in the hands of kidnappers, a Syrian presidential spokesman said yesterday.

Cubans' farewell fiesta shakes up Budapest

Budapest, the tranquil Hungarian capital on the Danube, became a battle-ground a few days ago. Fists flew and broken bottles whistled through the air as scores of Cuban guest-workers laid into the Hungarian police and bystanders.



Supporters of US sanctions against South Africa in solidarity; from left, Senator Edward Kennedy; Mrs Coretta Scott King, wife of murdered civil rights leader Martin Luther King; and Mr Randall Robinson, a black rights activist

Pressure on EEC for action

From Richard Owen Brussels

The EEC Commission said yesterday it had no plans "for the time being" to follow the example of the United States Congress and stop EEC grain sales to South Africa.

South Africa stands to lose \$710m exports to US

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Economic sanctions imposed against South Africa by the United States Congress would, on 1985 figures, ban exports worth an estimated \$710 million (£492 million), or 33 per cent, to America.

Shultz and Mugabe break the ice

From Zoriana Pysariwsky New York

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, yesterday met the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe, presenting an opportunity to lessen the strain in relations between the two countries.

Britain's 'girls' air complaints

From Richard Owen Brussels

The controversial Second World Whores' Congress ended yesterday with calls for the decriminalization of prostitution, some noisy opposition from feminists and the remarkable claim by a leading campaigner for British prostitutes that Mrs Thatcher's economic policies had driven a new generation to prostitution.

New light on death of general

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The mass trial of alleged Mafia criminals in Palermo has seen dramatic developments as a result of fresh testimony, which was greeted by howls of protest from the prisoners.

Protests at use of Mafia 'repentant'

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The mass trial of alleged Mafia criminals in Palermo has seen dramatic developments as a result of fresh testimony, which was greeted by howls of protest from the prisoners.

Shots at Punjab police chief

Delhi — Sikh terrorists yesterday penetrated to the heart of the Punjab police's defences and shot the state's most senior policeman as he strolled on the lawns of the officers' mess with his wife (Michael Hamlyn writes).

Train hits rock fans

Madrid — Two young Spaniards were killed by a goods train while listening to a rock concert near Tarragona, and 10 other concertgoers were injured (Richard Wigg writes).

Death blast

Colombo — An assistant government agent from Sri Lanka's north central province was among four people in a Jeep killed by a landmine on the Morawewa-Anuradhapura road. Tamil guerrillas are believed to be responsible.

Crash escape

Naples (Reuters) — A US naval helicopter crashed into the Mediterranean during a training exercise, but its three crew members were rescued with only minor injuries, the US Sixth Fleet said.

Poll claim

Cairo (AP) — The Government says that President Mubarak's National Democratic Party won 98 per cent of votes cast for a constitutional advisory body, and that an opposition boycott of the balloting failed.



Strict security measures surrounded the arrival of Baroness Young, above, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, for an official three-day visit to Malta, the first important British ministerial visit for 10 years.

Visa snub

Stockholm (Reuters) — France has turned down a request from Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Austria and Finland to be exempted from stringent new visa laws, the Swedish Foreign Ministry said.

Steam treat

Harare (Reuters) — Railway enthusiasts will soon be able to travel from Bulawayo to Victoria Falls in vintage luxury coaches hauled by a steam locomotive, a new Zimbabwe travel company said.

Seven hanged

Baghdad (AP) — Seven government employees or businessmen have been hanged for accepting bribes from companies that sought contracts in Iraq, according to a presidential decree.

Parcel bomb

Bonn — A parcel bomb exploded at the main parcels sorting office in Frankfurt after suspicious postmen began opening it. There were no injuries.

Eta arrests

Madrid — Spanish police have arrested four young men, suspected members of an Eta commando in Villadonia, near San Sebastian, and found a small arms cache in a building in which the People's Unity Party, the political wing of Eta, has its local office.

Greens' plea

Bonn (Reuters) — The West German Greens party urged President Husak of Czechoslovakia to free seven imprisoned jazz musicians and stop official harassment of the so-called "Jazz Section".

Shells delay

Moscow (Reuters) — More than 500 unexploded shells and mines buried since the Second World War held up the building of a settlement for workers decontaminating the Chernobyl nuclear power station, the Army daily Arznavyevka said.

Opposition embarrasses Socialists

Madrid resists demand for check on details of Nato membership

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

The Spanish Government is resisting demands to inform Parliament on how it envisages setting the military aspects of the country's Nato membership.

It was only when a Brussels newsletter revealed last May the Madrid Government's outline proposals that Spaniards learnt of their Government's position which, as one Western diplomat later observed privately, represents military integration in all but name.



Señor Fernández resisted an opposition assault.

According to the proposals, reportedly given the nod by Nato defence ministers at their spring meeting in Brussels, the Gonzalez Government limits military integration solely in the sense of not permitting its troops to come under direct orders from Nato commanders.

But Spain will continue to belong to Nato's military and defence planning committees and will set up French-style liaison officers with the commands.

Señor Narcís Serra, the Defence Minister, has repeatedly emphasized that the sovereignty dispute over Gibraltar prevents Spain's joining the integrated command structure.

When the present dispute with Parliament blew up, he first insisted that it was Nato which was demanding secrecy over the details of the Spanish proposals. It has emerged, however, that it was Spain's armed forces which decided in 1982 that all details of negotiations with Nato would in future be top secret.

The Government is seeking in Brussels a command for itself in Nato's Western approaches. This, however, should not be directly integrated. But this would conflict with Nato's existing Iberian command, headed by Portugal.

The Government is in difficulty over the precise degree of its military participation in Nato. One of the referendum's three conditions forbids military integration.

Señor Javier Rupérez, who was Spain's Ambassador to Nato when it joined the alliance in 1982, and is now a leading member of the Christian Democrat Party, which

Solidarity emerges as pressure group

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Solidarity, the Soviet bloc's only free trade union, has announced its re-birth, leaving the shadows of clandestine struggle to emerge as an open, legal pressure group for workers' rights.

The declaration drawn up by Mr Lech Wałęsa and his fellow union leaders marks an important new feature in the political landscape of Poland. Both the Government and Solidarity are now not only declaring their readiness for dialogue — a familiar but largely meaningless refrain for the past five years — but are actively preparing for talks.

The crucial initiative was the freeing of 225 political prisoners under an amnesty. Solidarity and the Catholic Church say that previous amnesties failed because there were not enough avenues for free expression.

The authorities are trying to work out ways in which critical opinion can be voiced without threatening the overall hegemony of the Communist Party.

One idea is to set up social consultative councils, allowing Communists, independent Catholics and perhaps ex-Solidarity advisers to discuss social policy under the aegis of General Jaruzelski.

The general is the party chief, as well as head of state, suggesting to the Church and Solidarity that the party's idea of dialogue is to choose with whom it wants to talk and leave others out in the cold.

Activist's sentence suspended

Warsaw (AP) — A Solidarity activist has received a two-year suspended sentence from a military court for refusing military duty, a member of an unofficial peace group said.

The court in Zielona Gora on Thursday suspended the sentence on Ryszard Bonowski when he agreed to accept a call-up card if he is summoned to serve in the military in the future, Mr Jacek Czarnowski, a founder of the banned Freedom and Peace Movement said.

Ski firms slip up on Japan's wet snow

From David Watts, Tokyo

Japanese snow is like no other, according to the compilers of a new set of safety standards for skis.

The result is an avalanche of protests from European ski manufacturers, who have a large percentage of the Japanese market and claim that Japan's new SG (safety goods) mark applied to skis, boots and bindings is a further trade barrier.

"The Japanese say the SG mark applies only to 5 per cent of the market at the moment, but we want to stamp this out before it suddenly becomes a reason to exclude our ski products," said Mr Michael Lake, spokesman for the European Economic Community in Japan.

The EEC has called on the Japanese Government to review the application of the mark to make it compatible with international standards.

That could not be done before next spring, the Government told Mr Joe Lovell, director-general of the EEC for Japan, who is concluding the latest set of negotiations with the Japanese on access for European waters, whiskies and aqueducts as well as skis, boots and bindings.

Mr Lovell said he detected a "commitment to change" in taxes on imported alcohol.

Indeed, the Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, promised Mrs Thatcher last May that Japan would try to put right unfair taxes on imported whisky.

Mr Lovell will report back to the Council of Ministers, but warned the Japanese that he could not rule out reprisals if the Parliament were not satisfied.

The EEC has now called for more negotiations on skiing equipment in the margins of a GATT meeting in Geneva later this month. So far the Japanese response has been non-committal.

The Japanese Ski Federation claims that poor snow, narrow pistes and crowded slopes have made special standards necessary. It argues that Japanese snow is damper than elsewhere, leading to more accidents on Japanese ski slopes than in any other sport.

Some 17 per cent of all sports accidents are on the slopes.



Mr Nur Misuari (left), leader of the Muslim separatist MNL organization in the southern Philippines, embracing Mrs Tarbata Lucban, the Aquino-appointed Governor, at a meeting in Marawi City also attended by Mr Ali Dinapuro, ex-President Marcos's local chieftain.

Aquino close to bringing 14-year Muslim separatist war to an end

From Keith Dalton, Manila

The Philippines is "inching towards peace" in the 14-year Muslim secessionist war, and formal ceasefire talks are due to begin next month in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, a Government envoy said yesterday.

Before then President Aquino is expected to meet another Muslim rebel leader, Mr Hashim Salamat, head of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), to convince him to join the talks, the President's brother-in-law and chief negotiator, Mr Agapito Aquino, said.

Mrs Aquino met Mr Salamat's rival, Mr Nur Misuari, chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), in a convent last month on the far southern island of Jolo, where the two agreed on moves to end the rebellion, beginning with an informal truce.

Mr Aquino said the President hoped to convince the two rebel leaders to settle their

differences, so they could both attend this month's formal ceasefire talks "with a view to bringing lasting peace to Mindanao" — the country's second largest island, where the majority of the five million Filipino Muslims live.

The meeting between the rival Muslim leaders is expected to be held in Jeddah, from where both men, in self-imposed exile, have directed their forces.

Since his unprecedented meeting with Mrs Aquino, Mr Misuari has consulted fellow Muslims on the Government's offer to grant autonomy to Muslim-dominated areas of Mindanao and the Sulu island chain further south.

He has said he will drop his long-standing demand for a separate Muslim state if expanded autonomy is favoured by the majority of Muslims.

Empty classes: The Communist guerrilla war has caused 100,000 Filipino primary and high school pupils to abandon classes in the countryside, where fighting

affects 64 of the country's 73 provinces, the Alliance of Concerned Teachers reported yesterday.

Sporadic skirmishes, the forced resettlement of communities, the use of scarce school buildings as refugee centres, a teacher shortage and a general climate of fear have persuaded an increasing number of pupils to stay away.

The teachers recommended to the Defence Ministry that military operations should be halted immediately within a three-mile radius of schools to ensure the safety of pupils.

The release of the Alliance's findings coincided with a military report that a school teacher, Mrs Gliceria Baga-sala, was shot dead in front of 100 primary-age pupils in Bato Town, 190 miles south of Manila.

Three young women armed with pistols "executed" the teacher during the morning flag-raising ceremony, the state-run Philippine New Agency reported.

US defence talks with five countries

Weinberger on world tour

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, leaves today on a three-week tour of China, India, Pakistan, Italy and Britain for talks with their top political and military leaders on bilateral, regional and global issues.

It will be the first visit to India, which is a leading buyer of Soviet arms, by a US Defence Secretary. He will also inspect Indian defence facilities.

Mr Weinberger has special messages from President Reagan for the Chinese, Indian, Pakistani and Italian leaders, Administration officials said.

He will conclude his tour in Britain, where he has been

strongly criticized by the Labour Party for publicly attacking its defence policies.

Mr Weinberger, in a recent television interview, charged that the Labour Party's anti-nuclear policies could lead to the break-up of Nato. But Mr Neil Kinlock, the Labour Party leader, has sought to reassure the US that his defence policies would not undermine Nato.

The Defence Secretary will attend a bi-annual meeting of the Nato Nuclear Planning Group at Glenageary, Scotland, on October 21 and 22.

Mr Weinberger will stop in Anchorage today to make a speech on US policy towards the Asian-Pacific region. His address will assess the dynamic political, economic and security developments characterizing the area.

In Peking, he will discuss continuing American arms sales co-operation with China. The US recently approved the sale of artillery ammunition, technology and advanced avionics to Peking for the Chinese-built F 7 fighter. The two countries will also discuss the sale of American naval torpedoes.

Mr Weinberger will also seek China's views on the Afghanistan and Cambodia conflicts and on the protracted Iran-Iraq war. American officials have expressed concern about China reportedly supplying arms to Iran.

In Italy, which is a Nato ally, he will be able to review East-West relations and counter-terrorism measures.

Istanbul synagogue massacre

Israelis pledge to pursue attackers

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israel will pursue those responsible for the attack on an Istanbul synagogue last month "to the ends of the earth," Major-General Amnon Shahak, the commander of military intelligence, warned yesterday in the Jerusalem Post.

"There will be absolutely no compromise here. But before you react you have to know who you are reacting against. You cannot lash out blindly," he said.

"This is not a war of days, weeks or even months. Before we react we have to know more than we know now — especially if a country is behind this.

"It, too, will not come away clean. Therefore it is essential that we have a clear address before we act. But act we will."

Although General Shahak has said the perpetrators of the raid, in which 22 people died, are not yet known, it is thought that members of the Abu Nidal group are prime suspects.

This group, based in Syria, has been suspected of carrying out many of the more violent terrorist acts, including the attacks on Rome and Vienna airports in December and the bloody hijacking of an EgyptAir airliner to Malta in November.

The Istanbul massacre is regarded by military intelligence here as bearing all the hallmarks of the kind of ruthlessness in which Abu Nidal members specialize.

"We don't need any real evidence to do something against Abu Nidal," a senior intelligence officer said. "The whole world will support anything we do to Abu Nidal."

General Shahak said there was widespread concern that the message from Syria's leadership was that hardship had to be endured "until the Zionists can be dealt with by the only pro-Arab nation in the Arab world prepared to suffer for the Arab cause."

He was also worried about the outcome of the Gulf war.

Religious party leader resigns after 36 years

Jerusalem (Reuters) — Dr Josef Burg, the Religious Affairs Minister, resigned from the Cabinet yesterday, after almost four decades of continuous service in Israeli governments, his office said.

Dr Burg, aged 77, the leader of the National Religious Party (NRP), sent a letter of resignation to Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, ending an unbroken, 36-year career as a Cabinet minister.

The German-born politician cited age as his reason for stepping down, but he has been under pressure within his party to resign after its poor showing in the 1984 elections, when it won only four seats, down from a high of 12 in 1977.

Dr Burg, a doctor of philosophy and logic, studied for the rabbinate. Regarded as one of the most astute observers of Israeli politics, he predicted that Mr



Dr Josef Burg, a cabinet minister for 36 years

Year of the fallow land tests Golan settlers

Jerusalem — "Shana Tova — A Happy New Year." Today is the start of the Jewish New Year, 5747, a particularly complex one for observing Jews living here, who must try to obey the religious commandments that the land of Israel should lie fallow and unworked for one year in seven (Ian Murray writes).

For the purposes of the Chief Rabbinate, the land of Israel also extends over the Golan Heights. Modern technology has had to come to the aid of the Jewish settlers there who want to observe Shmitta, as this fallow year is called.

The mitzva (religious commandment) for Shmitta says there must be no ploughing, sowing, reaping, pruning or grape-gathering in Israel during that time. But up on the Golan, the settlements are in serious economic difficulty and they must carry on farming to survive.

The answer is a self-propelled tractor, approved by Rabbi Yehezkel Daum, who is in charge of Shmitta for the Chief Rabbinate and is himself from the Golan.

"A man sits on the tractor but he is there only to stop it at the end of the row," Rabbi Daum says.

The settlements are considered by one rabbinical ruling to be exempt from many of the year's strictures on the grounds that full observance would put their existence at risk and so endanger the security of the country.

Farmers are therefore allowed to sell their land nominally to a Gentile for the year. Produce is sold off through the rabbinical courts although profit is not allowed.

These relaxations are not accepted by many of the ultra-orthodox Jews, who will not buy Israeli-grown produce. Green growers serving these communities are making arrangements to buy only from Arab farmers, and there are predictions that prices will rise by anything up to 50 per cent as a result.

Home-owners are also bound by the rules and have complex guidelines to follow for gardens, flower pots and window boxes.

One benefit derived from these rules is that watering must be restricted to the barest minimum needed to keep plants alive. Severe water rationing has already been introduced to restore Israel's dwindling supplies, and a fallow year should help to build up the natural reservoir.

50 boat people rescued off Philippines

San Fernando (Reuters) — Fifty Vietnamese refugees have been rescued off the northern Philippines after drifting for more than two months at sea, the military said yesterday.

A spokesman said the refugees were rescued by fishermen from a boat off the coast of Agoo in La Union province.

The refugees told military and government officials they left Vietnam in July.

Swindlers rounded up in Thai tourism drive

Bangkok (Reuters) — A police crackdown on criminals at important tourist spots in Thailand has led to a 40 per cent drop in complaints from foreign visitors, police said yesterday.

Colonel Chalermdej Chompunat, commander of the Tourist Police unit, said that since the action started almost 400 people had been arrested for swindling foreigners at top tourist spots such as the resort island of Phuket, Pattaya Beach and Chiang Mai.

He did not say when the crackdown started. The police had found that tourists were being overcharged, made topsey for repairs to motor scooters fitted with old parts and charged for missing scooters which had been stolen by the owners.

The police drive was aimed at promoting Thailand's Tourism Year in 1987. Tourism has topped the country's foreign exchange earnings list in the past few years.

Fate of four Iran athletes still unknown

Seoul — (Reuters) — The whereabouts of four Iranian athletes, who disappeared during the Asian Games here and are rumoured to be seeking asylum, were still unknown yesterday.

A news conference by the Iraqi Consulate failed to take place. Asked whether the Iranians were in his custody, the Iraqi consul-general said: "We have nothing more to say."

A South Korean official said his government knew nothing

Reporters wounded in Cambodia

Bangkok (Reuters) — An Australian journalist has been shot and a Canadian newsman also reported wounded while accompanying guerrillas in north-west Cambodia.

Sources said yesterday that Mr David Nason, aged 32, suffered face and chest injuries in clashes between Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KNPLF) rebels and pro-Hanoi Cambodian troops.

He writes for The Northern Territory Times in Darwin and The Australian of Sydney.

The Canadian, Mr Robert Karniol, in his 30s, is a freelance for the Far Eastern Economic Review of Hong Kong.

Less than a dozen reporters have crossed the heavily-mined border and deep into Cambodia since Vietnamese troops installed a pro-Hanoi government in Phnom Penh in 1979.

The journalists are expected to arrive in Thailand for medical treatment. They entered Cambodia with the non-Communist KPRLF rebels on September 17, hoping to reach Tomle Sap Lake.

Mr Nason is the first Western journalist known to have been shot while on a foray into Cambodia with any of the three groups in the United Nations-backed guerrilla coalition, headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Error that carries threat for software industry

From Paul Valley, New York

Mr Jim Cummings had almost finished preparing the tender that his construction company was to submit for a multi-million-pound office complex in Miami when he realized a vital figure had been omitted.

Not for the first time he felt thankful that he had been persuaded to buy a personal computer to take the drudgery out of such work. Into his estimate he inserted the \$250,000 (£174,000) for general costs which had been overlooked. It appeared on the screen and on the subsequent print-out, which he checked before dispatching his bid.

It was some time after his tender had been accepted that

he realized that, although the computer had inserted the figure, it had not added it into the overall total. He checked through the instruction booklet which came with the "Symphony" software program, and decided it was the software and not himself which was to blame.

Mr Cummings is now suing the manufacturer, Lotus Development Corporation, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, for the quarter of a million dollars he lost on the deal. The case has set the US computer industry buzzing, for if he is successful the implications for America's still burgeoning software industry will be dramatic.

Lotus says that Mr Cummings made the mistake of entering the figure at the top

of the column instead of in the middle. The builder's lawyer, Mr John Squitro, is impressed by such distinctions.

"They deliberately market these programmes to the unsophisticated user. Mr Cummings is not an expert and could not be expected to know that the figure should not go at the top. The instruction booklet did not make that clear," Mr Squitro said.

"A manufacturer has to be responsible for the quality and merchantability of his product. There is no legal reason why the computer industry should be exempt."

Until now software manufacturers have claimed a kind of exemption by including a "limited liability" guarantee with their products. These

operate in some instances by a written disclaimer which accompanies the computer disc.

Others depend on the legal distinction that the purchaser does not buy the actual computer program but only the right to use it, which circumvents some of his normal rights as a buyer. It is these issues which the case will challenge.

Lotus is currently claiming as its defence that its instruction booklet is adequate and that the fault is Mr Cummings'. "One would have to be a very unsophisticated user not to understand it," a spokesman for the firm said.

But other software firms are worried by the repercussions of the case.

"We are a small company and if people made mistakes and sued us for it, it wouldn't take too many cases before we had to close," one said.

Many firms are now contending that users should double-check work done by a computer.

Mr Squitro is dismissive. "Double check? The reason people buy these computers is to avoid work, not to create it," he said.

What everyone in the industry dreads is an out-of-court settlement. It would, Mr Martin Rinehart, the director of the Software Publishers' Association, said, "leave the rest of us in the software industry with no clarification of the existing issues."

LIQUID SILVER advertisement with product image and detailed text about silver restoration.

CITY NEW OR advertisement with large text and graphics.

CITY CITY BANG BANG



The Big Bang: a revolution in the way money is managed produces a team of people worth £1m in transfer fees and £2m in salaries

COMING OUT OF THE CLOSET

Revealing: happy Englishwomen who don't plan their wardrobes but love dressing up



MAGAZINE

LOOK NEW ORDINARINESS

Michael Roberts counting down to the London collections



SIMON JENKINS

What lies in wait for the 'Duke' at the BBC.



MacGREGOR

VICTORY

OVER ALL THE ENEMIES WITHIN

Where did you come in the Fun Run?



THE SUNDAY TIMES
ALL THAT'S BEST IN BRITISH JOURNALISM

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SPORTS DIARY

Simon Barnes

Six of the better

Ian Botham's instinct for drama is so complete that he managed to stage a last-gasp victory over Viv Richards without even knowing he was doing it. *Wisden Cricket Monthly* had decided to reward six-hitting batsmen in first-class cricket with the Basic Six 6-Hit Awards. By September 9, Richards led the table with 34 sixes, followed by Hick, Greenidge and Botham, all on 23. Botham had reached that figure despite missing two months of the season because of his pot-smoking ban. Richards missed the last two matches of the season because of the troubles at Somerset, but his team-mate, Botham, also moved by the county's woes, got aggressive.

In the penultimate match of the season he hit nine sixes in one innings. In his last innings of the season, on the third day of a rain-ravaged match, Botham, wholly ignorant of his standing in the 6-hit competition, went out to bat and lashed only 12 balls. But in those 12 balls he scored 36 runs — with two sixes. That brought him level with Richards on 34. The tie-break factor was the highest number of sixes scored in a single innings: Botham's freshly hit nine did the trick for him. The final table reads: Botham 34, Richards 34, Hick 30, Greenidge 25, Lilley 23, Warner 22, Bailey 21, Whitaker 21, and Stewart 20.

Rose wars

The Labour Party's new emblem is a red rose. Very tasteful. This does not amuse the men of Rugby Union, not all of them solid left-wingers. For the England team play in white shirts with, embroidered on the bosom, a red rose: a rose stunningly similar to the new emblem of socialism. As a propaganda coup, as a masterful piece of subliminal advertising, Labour's achievement is remarkable. But will the emblem be forever associated in the mind with glorious victories? I am sure the England players will be stimulated by the knowledge that they will now be playing for the prestige of the Labour Party.

BARRY FANTONI



'Should appeal particularly to clubs with only a handful of supporters'

Dark Arc

The Arc, Europe's richest horse race, is run tomorrow and presents more problems than the Grand National in picking the winner. After prolonged meditation this column goes, rather conservatively, for Dancing Brave. Darara is the danger.

Royal, ancient

Don't throw away any old bits of golfing tat — they could be national treasures. Britain is to have a golfing museum, and in due course the public will be asked to donate dusty odds and ends for the greater glory of golf. The British Golf Museum will be at St Andrews: the Royal and Ancient Golf Club already has many items for it, and will seek more in due course, clubs, balls, books, paintings, other stuff that will reassure golfers that they are not alone in the universe: they are following a long and historical tradition of sporting folly.

Firing the ashes

Australians, ever eager to make Tests against the old enemy sound more intense, are calling this winter's series Clashes for the Ashes.

Hoddle Bros

There's only one Hoddle. Tottenham Hotspur's supporters sigh as they watch their lovely Glenn strut his stuff. But they are wrong: there are two. Glenn has a brother called Carl, who is 19 and plays for Barnet in the GM Vauxhall Conference. His manager, Barry Fry, said: "He is six-foot-four, weighs 15 stone and looks like the heavyweight champion of the world. But he has good skills on the ball like his brother and could develop into a good player."

Drive with care

One does not normally think of Lebanon as the ideal place for an international sporting event, but next weekend it is the stage for the Marlboro Rally des Montagnes. Forty cars will be taking part in a 1,000 km event. Won't it be a little, er, dangerous? The organizers say stiffly: "There have never been incidents in the past."

Since the post-Watergate revelations of American "covert action", the CIA has assumed the leading role in conspiracy theory formerly occupied by Jesuits, Freemasons and Jews. After the Soviet shooting down on September 1983, of the Korean airliner KAL007 (officially it should be KE007) it was utterly predictable that, since nobody on board survived to sue, the CIA rather than the Kremlin would soon be made the scapegoat.

In October 1984 the Greek prime minister and conspiracy theorist, Andreas Papandreu, announced that "the world is now convinced that KAL007 was on an espionage mission for the CIA". A few months later he told American TV that "if such a plane entered Greek airspace we too would have shot it down". (Not long afterwards a Soviet airliner strayed over the main Greek air force base without, however, causing a single fighter to scramble). In Britain the CIA conspiracy theory has attracted the considerable talents of the Oxford political scientist, R.W. Johnson, who suggests in his book *Shootdown* that KAL007 was used as a probe to switch on Soviet radars, whose operations could then be monitored by US intelligence. This "startling new theory" seduced even the *Sunday Telegraph* into reprinting its main findings last May. Johnson has none the less complained of "a semi-blackout" in publicity for his book which he attributes to another "media control" by Mrs Thatcher (which, however, presumably does not extend as far left as the *Sunday Telegraph*).

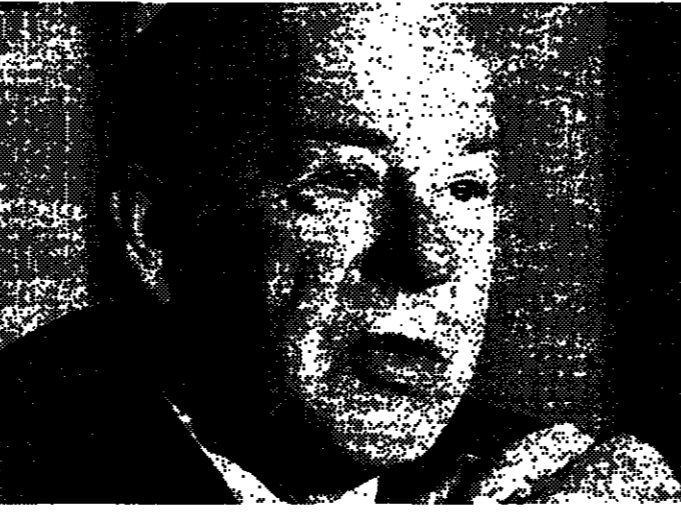
Curiously, the KGB, despite its monstrous record on human rights and an addiction to deception operations going back over half a century, is now a less fashionable subject for conspiracy theorists than the CIA. Significantly, the *Shootdown* index contains numerous references to the CIA but not one for the KGB. Although only a conspiracy theorist could regard Johnson as a Soviet agent, the allegation that KAL007 was a CIA espionage mission first surfaced as part of a Soviet disinformation campaign of the kind commonly involving Service A of the KGB's First Chief Directorate.

The initial Soviet reaction to the shooting-down of the plane, as to the Chernobyl disaster, was to deny that it had happened. Soviet fighters, explained Tass, had merely "tried to give assistance in directing it to the nearest airfield". When finally forced to admit the truth, the Soviet media fell back on the alternative strategy of using the CIA as a scapegoat. The evidence manufactured to support this dis-information campaign included a report that Chun Byung-In, the captain, had boasted of previous intelligence missions for the CIA and had shown his friends espionage equipment on his plane.

The popularity of the CIA conspiracy theory, even in organs as remote from KGB control as the *Sunday Telegraph*, can, how-

Christopher Andrew contrasts two conflicting views of the KAL007 disaster and goes for the prosaic but commonsense approach

CIA conspiracy — a theory at last shot down



Shultz: an irresponsible use of military intelligence

ever, scarcely be explained chiefly in terms of Soviet media manipulation. It has perhaps more to do with the popular belief, propagated by spy novels, that in the murky world of intelligence nothing is ever as it seems and that the commonsense explanation cannot be the right one. One of the merits of Seymour Hersh's new book, *The Target Is Destroyed*, is to show that the commonsense explanation is also much the most probable, that the plane strayed wildly off course through accident rather than design — probably pilot error in programming its navigation system. Failure to recover the black box makes it impossible to be certain what the error was, but Hersh shows how it could have happened.

The main novelty of Hersh's book, however, is not his demolition of the conspiracy theory but his analysis of superpower reaction to the disaster. The initial Soviet response was highly confused. When KAL007 entered Soviet airspace, the air force command at Khabarovsk could find no secure channel of communication to seek instructions from Moscow. After at least three attempts to communicate by code, it gave up and sent an unscrambled message instead. After this confused exchange (monitored, like much else, by US signals intelligence) Khabarovsk reminded the command centre on Sakhalin Island (which KAL007

overflew) of the rules of engagement requiring visual identification of the intruder before shooting it down. Sakhalin ignored those rules. Flight 007 was destroyed by two missiles fired by a Soviet fighter pilot who failed to identify what he was shooting at. The Soviet Union, never, of course, admits incompetence by its armed forces. What is more surprising is that the Reagan administration also refused to credit, at least in public, the ample evidence of Soviet incompetence provided by its own intelligence. Waving a secret intelligence report, George Shultz, the Secretary of State, immediately insisted there was no doubt that the Soviet air force knew exactly what it was doing: the Soviet pilot had identified KAL007 as a civilian airliner and shot it down in cold blood.

President Reagan took the unprecedented step of playing excerpts from the Soviet pilot's exchanges with his ground control in a dramatic television broadcast designed to demonstrate that "there is no way a pilot could mistake this for anything other than a civilian airliner". Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick played a further set of recorded excerpts at the United Nations. The certainties of all three were gradually undermined by evidence that the Russians had suspected that the plane was not a commercial airliner but an American RC 135 intelligence aircraft.

Not for the last time, the administration damaged a powerful case against the Soviet Union by overstating it. The issue gradually shifted from Soviet responsibility for the deaths of 269 passengers and crew to the credibility of the American claim that the Soviet air force had deliberately shot down a civilian airliner. As it struggled to defend its original charge of deliberate, cold-blooded murder, the language of official spokesmen became increasingly tortured.

Hersh, however, probably pushes his argument too far. He does establish that the Soviet air force suspected it was dealing with an RC 135. But he does not prove that it had excluded the possibility that the intruder was a commercial airliner. In 1978 a Soviet fighter attacked a Korean aircraft, Flight 002 from Paris to Seoul, also accidentally off course over Soviet territory. This time the plane's identity was clear, at least to the Soviet fighter pilot who was given, and at first resisted, the order to shoot it down. On this occasion the airliner miraculously survived a missile attack with only 13 passengers killed and wounded, and landed on a frozen lake.

The KAL007 tragedy has large implications for American intelligence. In its desire to make its charges against the Soviet Union stick, the administration made unprecedented public use of signals intelligence gathered by the NSA (the American GCHQ). It was almost as indiscreet earlier this year when it used Libyan intercepts as part of its campaign to justify its attack on Tripoli and Benghazi. Intelligence officers are entitled to feel that it is not a good idea to tell either the Russians or the Libyans about the interception of their communications. President Reagan's use of signals intelligence has inevitably caused strains in the Anglo-American intelligence alliance.

Few authors, even in the United States, have gained access to as much highly classified intelligence as Hersh has done. His sources inside and close to US intelligence "asked me" as he acknowledges in talking to him. They took the risk, he believes, largely because of outrage at the administration's misuse of intelligence. One analyst told Hersh that, while Shultz was claiming on television that the Soviet air force had without question deliberately destroyed a civilian airliner, "we were all saying, 'how can the son-of-a-bitch do this... he's making political and corrupt use of intelligence'".

Once an intelligence community believes that its political masters are making partisan use of the material it provides, some of its members are bound to be tempted to try to put the record straight. © Times Newspapers, 1986. Christopher Andrew is the author of *Secret Service: The Making of the British Intelligence Community* (Heinemann) and editor of *Intelligence and National Security*. *Shootdown* is published by Chatto & Windus (£10.95) and *The Target Is Destroyed* by Faber (£9.95).

Michael Kinsley Daniloff's big difference

New York. Suppose the KGB had never grabbed Nicholas Daniloff. And suppose, in that circumstance, that the US government had secured the liberation of two courageous Soviet dissidents such as Yuri Orlov and his wife Irina in exchange for nothing more than the release of a low-level Soviet agent such as Gennady Zakharov. There is no question that this would have been greeted by right-wing commentators as a brilliant, triumph of hard-headed Reaganite diplomacy.

After all, the usual practice when a Soviet diplomat makes his spying too obvious is to evict him without ceremony and without negotiation (as Mrs Thatcher did by the dozen last year). It is true that Zakharov, unlike most, was operating without benefit of diplomatic immunity. That may have been a violation of espionage etiquette, but it is hardly a distinction that lends itself to moral outrage. A Russian spying for the Soviet Union is not like an American spying for the Soviet Union. There is no reason why we should have wanted to send the hapless Zakharov to prison for life, especially at the cost of leaving Orlov in Siberia.

All logic suggests, therefore, that the actual deal that took place — Zakharov for the Orlovs plus Daniloff — should also be greeted as a Reagan triumph. We would happily have traded Zakharov for the Orlovs. Daniloff is grumpy. The Russians gave him up for nothing. This strikes me as a great success. Yes, we have not punished the Russians for their outrageous seizure of an innocent journalist, just as we don't punish them for all the other things they do that morally offend us. But we have done what is more important: denied them any practical benefit from their action, and thereby given them no incentive to try the same stunt when the US next seizes a genuine spy.

But logic is not the governing factor in the American reaction to the Daniloff deal, which is being greeted as a "fig leaf" (the dominant metaphor) for a president over eager for a summit. Hardliners are having fits. Even some liberal Democrats have accused President Reagan of giving up too much, thereby positioning himself to give up too much in the more negotiations ahead on arms control. Reagan brings some of this grief on himself with his idiotic insistence that no deal took place. But there are other, equally amusing, explanations for the reaction. My favourite is that the Daniloff story played itself out in the way it did because the Ameri-

cans the Russians decided to arrest happened to be a journalist. This contention can be verified almost scientifically. In 1978 there was a similar episode. The US arrested two Soviet spies at the United Nations. Three weeks later, in Moscow, an American was dragged from his car at a traffic light and thrown into prison. Only that American was a businessman. Eventually the Soviet spies were released in exchange for the businessman plus five dissidents.

You possibly don't even remember that episode. I didn't. It was reported on an inside page of *The New York Times*. The businessman's name was Francis Jay Crawford. Thanks to a computerized data base called Nexis, which stores and indexes every word of the main US newspapers and magazines, it is possible to make a rough comparison of the coverage of the Crawford and Daniloff cases. The entire Crawford cycle, from arrest to release over several months, produced 68 articles with his name in them. By comparison, up to September 23, three weeks after his arrest and before all the publicity surrounding his release, Daniloff's name had appeared in 433 articles, many of them page one. (There were 17 articles referring to Crawford in the three weeks after Daniloff's arrest — not too many fewer than in the same period after his own arrest eight years ago.)

There was not a peep of protest, even from hardliners, about the Crawford deal — even though the president at the time was the supposedly weak-kneed Jimmy Carter. It took the Reagan administration a little while to discover that the Daniloff story was going to work out differently. At first the administration expected the usual pressure not to let an "unfortunate incident" block the search for peace, and so on. Instead, in terms of press slant, this one has turned out to be a gift for hardliners.

So it is also amusing that hardliners seem to be using their special leverage in this case quite stupidly. After all, in the larger diplomatic game, the "winner" of a deal like the Daniloff swap depends on which side is seen as the winner. American political consultants have a wonderful term for this: "spin control" (after the baseball technique of putting a spin on the ball). What has been going on in the Daniloff case is negative spin control: turning an actual victory into a perceived defeat. Perhaps the Russians knew what they were doing when they grabbed a journalist, after all. The author is editor of *New Republic*.

As Labour gets its policies together Colin Welch writes a prescient assessment of Anthony Crosland's way ahead

The socialist future in retrospect

was fated to see an unprecedented inflation and high and rising unemployment. What kept him so cheerful? It was not, I fancy, any faith in any sort of socialism, his own sort or any other, though I do not question his sincerity. No, paradoxical as it may sound, it seems rather to have been an incongruous profound and comforting faith, itself irrational, in the ability of capitalism somehow to keep going, to maintain growth and to enhance prosperity, even when deprived of all the discipline and rewards, the sticks and carrots hitherto thought essential to its success.



How so? Was it not Crosland who first, or most memorably, suggested that profit need not be a dirty word to socialists, thus commending his work to all non-dogmatic "men of goodwill"? It was indeed. Yet mark now with what qualifications he defends the profit motive. Profits and the market system are perfectly in order, yes — but only on two harsh conditions. One is that effective demand must be equalized, i.e. that incomes must be rendered more equal.

The other condition is that profits must be retained and not distributed, the penalty for the latter crime being swingeing taxation. This continuous "ploughing back" must, of course, have very adverse effects on the raising of capital for new firms and industries. If existing firms hang on to all they gain, where is new risk capital to be found? Crosland everywhere neglects the needs and role of new businesses, and seems to overlook their importance to growth and innovation. Now we can readily see that the profits Crosland tolerates are profits which have lost much of their purpose, in so far as that purpose was to elicit and reward skill, hard work, risk-taking. The word "profit" remains but the lure, the reward will find its way into private hands, what does will promptly be redistributed. Taxation, he cries, must be made "to bite more deeply and more fiercely". Behind what Anthony Crosland urged may be discerned a failure

to recognize any logical or just connection between production and distribution. He notes with resentment the prizes the free economy offers; he notes with some complacency the efforts it elicits and the wealth it creates. But he does not recognize, or if he recognizes does not emphasize, any link between the two. The first can safely be diminished, almost abolished, without affecting the supply of the latter. About nationalization itself his mind is equivocal and ambiguous. He reviews its past without enthusiasm: "We now understand rather better that monopoly, even where it is public, has definite drawbacks." (Others might say especially where it is public for a public monopoly is far more durable than a private one, protected as it normally is by statute and government interference from all change and competition.) Yet nationalization, thus firmly shown the door, soon comes clambering back in modified, but not less alarming, form through the windows. It is now to be "supple, flexible and relevant... to achieve certain definite socialist ends." Vast funds would

accrue to the state from that deep and fierce taxation — i.e. from the ruin of many independent businesses. These funds would be used "generally to increase the area of public ownership" and to "extend public investment in any direction" (my italics). Public boards would be set up to manage these funds and operations, at once "independent of the government in their day-to-day operations" and yet responsive to legitimate government requests, for instance "to play a consciously stabilizing role in the (stock) market." Crosland himself mercilessly ridiculed the Labour Party's ever-changing nationalization proposals which, as he said, constituted a vague, threat to the whole of private industry.

Very well, but what comfort could private industry derive from Crosland's own approach, a budgeon in both hands, taxation in this one, subsidized competition in that, the first ready to fall everywhere, the second anywhere, "in any direction", setting in train a process which has no limit or term.

Have I greatly overstated the case? Had he lived, Tony Crosland could have argued so, or indeed he could have rowed back and back until in the end his proposals were merged in line with the "mixed-up variegated pattern of ownership" which he thought essential to "guarantee personal liberty and the fragmentation of power." On the other hand, our national experience in which so much has gone ill in ways which Crosland puzzled and disturbed would have does not suggest the case to be overstated. His road to socialism starts simple and certain than that of the left, more complicated and ambiguous, less obviously hostile to liberty and prosperity, the more insidious and ingratiating, thus all the harder to resist.

How could non-socialists fail to be reassured by a man who calls not only for higher exports and old-age pensions but also for "more open-air cafes, brighter and gayer streets at night, later closing hours for public houses, more local reservoir theatres, better and more hospitable hoteliers and restaurateurs, brighter and cleaner eating houses, more riverside cafes, more pleasure-gardens on the Battersea model, more murals and pictures in public places, better designs for furniture and pottery and women's clothes, statues in the centre of new housing estates, better designed street lamps and telephone kiosks, and so on *ad infinitum*..."

What an enlightening prospect: Paris rather than Moscow, more Toulouse-Lautrec than socialist realism! Indeed, many non-socialists have surveyed it with a certain bemused and hesitant goodwill, thinking it perhaps more friend than foe, as truly it contains elements of both. Adapted from an article published in *Encounter* in 1979 shortly after Anthony Crosland's death.

Woodrow Wyatt A fistful of jobs in your pocket

Everyone is worried about unemployment. The Labour Party and the Alliance play upon our guilt feelings to soften us into not complaining about enormous tax increases to relieve unemployment. Labour proposes that the nationalized industries take on a million workers who are not needed. If Labour wins the next election, councils are to be instructed to employ more staff. We are still conditioned by the welfare state to believe that it is governments which are responsible for the level of employment. For brief periods they can have an effect, until the excess government spending takes its inevitable toll through inflation and increased wage demands to meet higher taxation, and brings the type of economic collapse with which we have become familiar. Then the government's spending plans are dramatically cut and unemployment resumes its upward path.

There is little of permanent good that governments can do about unemployment. It is not the government's fault that our balance of payments is fast deteriorating and that last month saw a record gap between imports and exports. We are also to blame. We think sentimentally about the unemployed but stop short of personal action to help them.

The excellent Think British Campaign, carrying out research with the Economist Intelligence Unit, found that the average couple with two children spends about £110 a week on consumer goods and services; £30 of it goes on imported goods. The proportion spent on British goods sinks steadily. If the average household switched £5 a week from buying foreign to buying British, 580,000 new jobs would be created within two years. The consumer would not suffer because the British goods he would buy are just as good as the foreign. Here is a practical and painless philanthropy within reach of everyone.

For years after the last war Britain was the largest motor manufacturer in Europe. We hardly imported a car at all and our exports were magnificent; now nearly 57 per cent of our cars are imported. In Japan less than 1 per cent are imported. Every time we buy a foreign car we put someone out of work, though we may be the most compassionate Alliance or Labour supporter. If we were to buy 10 per cent more British cars instead of foreign there would be an immediate effect on unemployment. We buy foreign cars not very solid reasons: fashion, impulse,

appearance, fittings. At the Tote, where I am chairman, we have a rule that only British clothes may be bought; a rule that applies to all our supplies, wherever there is a British equivalent. Most management and individuals, as the import figures show, do not attempt to buy British. Famous hotel chains import furniture, linen, china and cutlery from Italy, Germany and Scandinavia. They could easily buy the equivalent here. Fifty per cent of all men's and boys' woven shirts are imported. At Marks and Spencer, Britain's largest retailer of shirts, all shirts are home produced; 75 per cent of Marks and Spencer footwear is British made and the proportion is going up, though nationwide 50 per cent of footwear is imported. Marks and Spencer are famous for their quality and profits. By taking the trouble to ensure that British manufacturers meet their quality and price standards they are responsible for maintaining much employment. Some other large retailers are beginning to take similar pains, but most find it less trouble to buy from abroad.

The European Court of Justice has made identification of foreign goods harder for the British customer. Anything can come into Britain from the EEC, even if it was first bought from outside the EEC, without any need to mark it as foreign made. The sole protection is that it is a breach of the Trade Description Act to say something was made in Britain which substantially was not. All British producers should therefore mark their goods as British, so that the consumer may understand that goods not so marked are imported.

In 1981 the import penetration of all manufactured goods was 25.5 per cent. Today it is 33 per cent and rising. If we do not all make a conscious effort to buy British, imports are forecast to go up by an average of 3.6 per cent a year, which will cause still more unemployment. Strikes and trade union restrictive practices and wage increases without corresponding productivity are the cause of one million more unemployed than there would otherwise have been, according to Professor Patrick Minford of Liverpool University's research group in economics. But the great mass of unemployment is down to us, whether as consumers or managers. We can actually do something about it; instead of spending our consciences, we consciously parade our pockets and buy British.

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ON THIS DAY

OCTOBER 4 1873

The Atlantic was first crossed in a balloon in August, 1792. The instigator of this earlier attempt was John Wise (1808-79). He quarrelled with his backers and did not take part in the flight, which was made by Washington Donalson, George Lant and Alfred Ford. The balloon crashed at New Canaan, Connecticut.

THE TRANSATLANTIC BALLOON VOYAGE - The process of inflating the balloon had been going on all day (September 12), and as the afternoon advanced, it seemed as if everything would turn out successfully. The people lounged and gossiped, were as patient as possible under the circumstances, and were, of course, in a state of high expectancy. Presently a pretty large report was heard, accompanied by a rushing sound, and everybody looked toward the balloon, in the top of which a large rent was observable. The gaspings were extended the rent still further, and in less than a minute the balloon had entirely collapsed, the failure of the affair being greeted with a pretty general expression of good-humoured derision. At the time that the balloon burst it appeared to be inflated to the extent of about two-thirds or perhaps three-quarters its capacity. What was the actual cause of the collapse is, of course, a matter of some doubt, and a good deal of surmise. The inferiority of the material would appear to be the primary cause, and then, again, it is affirmed that during the process of inflation the netting was held too tight. It is certain, at all events, that the balloon bulged through the netting, but how far this circumstance may have tended toward the result which came about is only a matter of speculation. The report of a score of journalists named around Steiner and the Goodells immediately after the collapse. All at once a circle was formed, with Mr. Steiner in the centre, and this central figure proceeded to explain the cause of the rupture. "A balloon of cotton," said Mr. Steiner, "of this size can be constructed strong enough to stand the inflation, with the wind of the last half hour" (there had been no wind to speak of) "a surface presenting 4,000 square feet of canvas, equal to the sail of the largest ship afloat, and the pressure of 7,000 pounds against the crown of the balloon. The material weighs 4,000 pounds, all concentrating at the valve. I don't believe a silk balloon of the same size would stand the pressure, except enclosed in a bag of cotton, and without netting. No bag of this size has ever been inflated, so that, in a certain sense, it is an experiment. At the time of the explosion there was 325,000 feet of gas in the balloon. She parted at the valve, and split into three pieces, and burst inside out. The cause was not the pressure of the gas alone, but the breeze as well. I always had a doubt of the ability to inflate it. I thought today it was no calm I could inflate it, but the wind coming on made it impossible." At this time a knot of gentlemen were tearing strips from a piece of the balloon cloth they had somehow obtained, as easily as if it were paper. A word from any self-constituted leader to the crowd would have resulted disastrously. The multitude, who had shown great patience, would have done sad damage to the bungling balloonists if anyone had raised a cry against them. As it happened they passed away quietly. Professor Wise, who was afterwards visited at his residence, stated that before the accident occurred he had an irreconcilable difference with the Messrs. Goodells, and had altogether abandoned the idea of taking any further part in the matter, but it was afterwards understood between them that he should make the ascension. The difference related to his engagement with a publisher to write a book to be entitled Through the Air. The balloon burst, he said, because proper care had not been taken in the manufacture of the gas-bag. The cotton material used in its construction had not been properly dried when it was oiled and varnished; instead of drying it indoors, it was exposed in the open air. This exposure had the effect of injuring the cloth to such an extent as to make it too weak to bear the great strain to which it had to be subjected. There were other things used in the construction of the balloon, which, in his judgment, were not suited to the purpose for which they were designed. The tarred marine used for netting was of the kind of material he wanted. He had suggested the use of soft flax cord, which would not chafe the gas-bag. This cord, however, was too expensive. Concerning the cost of the balloon, Professor Wise said he had estimated that it would cost \$5,300 60c. The present balloon had not cost more than \$4,000. He said he became tired of quietly battling against the false economy and the selfishness of the managers of the enterprise. His suggestions were disregarded, and finally entirely unheeded. But he had become so identified with the matter that he resolved to make an attempt, even if it resulted in a partial failure and his life was risked. - New York Times.

It would be nice to see the conventions, as well as the courtesies, of appointment by the Queen in Council, after inter-party consultation, restored. Yours faithfully, LEONARD MIALI, Maryfield Cottage, Taplow Village, Maidenhead, Berkshire.

I can speak with a knowledge in depth of Mr. Hussey's character and behaviour. He was Deputy Chairman of the Newspaper Publishers Association for several years under my chairmanship. In that time no one tried harder to create good relationships with the numerous unions concerned; no one could more inappropriately be regarded as a union-basher.

I should be astonished if, whatever his success or otherwise in his new appointment, he can be charged with unfairness or prejudice against unions or any legitimate political party. Yours faithfully, GOODMAN, 9-11 Fulwood Place, Gray's Inn, WC1, October 2.

Unfair shares From Mrs Hilary Kerr Sir, The massive over-subscription of the TSB sale points to the likelihood of a similar application for shares in British Gas in November. Quite rightly TSB customers have received priority; British Gas have a priority scheme which guarantees registered customers at least £250 worth of shares (report, October 2).

However, there is one fundamental difference between the two offers. Any one of us could have become a TSB customer before the qualifying date and thereby gained priority in our share application. With British Gas this is impossible. Many of us are not customers through no fault of our own. In our case the main is almost a mile away by road, in others much further.

Had we chosen not to have gas in the first place, fair enough; but we seem to be discriminated against purely on a geographical basis. Yours faithfully, HILARY KERR, 2 Colnetts Cottages, Chart Lane, Brasted, Westerham, Kent.

From Mrs J. D. Chicken Sir, TSB pins (letters, September 27, 30): why not send them to British Gas? Yours faithfully, JEAN D. CHICKEN, 13 Bantock Close, Bacup, Lancashire.

Personal affront From Mr C. R. Jones Sir, The difference that Mr J. M. Meade (October 2) is seeking surely lies in the fact that the commander of the ship is communicating his situation, albeit the ship is in a similar state. I cannot believe that the announcement, "I am temporarily out of action", indicates the present situation of the bank manager. Yours sincerely, C. R. JONES, 24 Alhambra Road, Southsea, Hampshire.

In common currency From Mr Ray Ward Sir, In 1832, judging from your "On This Day" item about Sir Walter Scott (September 27), the abbreviation for "pound" (the unit of currency) appears to have been a lower-case italic *l* placed after the figure. I wonder if anyone can tell me when the capital *L* came into use in its stylised form of £ and also when and how there came about the puzzling practice of placing the symbols for major currency units - or even the full names - before the figure? Yours faithfully, RAY WARD, 48 St George's Avenue, N7.

Appointment of BBC Chairman

From Mr Leonard Miall Sir, Once again the appointment of a BBC Chairman (report, October 3) has been announced from Downing Street, apparently before its approval by the Queen in Council.

In the past the Prime Minister used to consult the Opposition before making a recommendation to the Monarch and the Privy Council of an appointment to a body incorporated by royal charter. This was because those so appointed, such as BBC governors, remain in office for their statutory terms despite changes in government.

Such Crown appointees cannot be removed for political reasons, although the dismissal of the complete board of governors of the BBC was contemplated on one occasion 20 years ago, when they resisted the proposal to take advertising on the Light Programme.

Like his predecessors, Sir Alec Douglas-Home consulted the Opposition before putting forward the name of Lord Normanbrook, the last BBC Chairman to die in office before the untimely death of Stuart Young. However, when the news of Harold Wilson's intention to switch Lord Hill of Luton from the chairmanship of the Independent Television Authority to the BBC as Normanbrook's successor leaked prematurely, there was no inter-party consultation.

Lord Hill's appointment was hastily announced from Downing Street on July 26, 1967, the Acting Chairman of the BBC, Sir Robert Lusty, being told that the Queen had had to hold an emergency Privy Council meeting at Goodwood racecourse that day! In fact the Queen was put in the position of having formally to approve the appointment at a regular Privy Council meeting at Buckingham Palace two days later.

It becomes abundantly clear, therefore, that the country is very nearly equally divided on this subject, and unlike the other two parties the Liberal/SDP Alliance gathers its support from a cross-section of the British electorate and the views within the parties reflect the division that exists in the country as a whole.

Presumably, if Labour wins the next election outright, it will claim a mandate to abolish all nuclear weapons and if it is then followed by a Conservative government they would reinstate nuclear weapons. The Liberal/SDP Alliance is seeking to find a rational compromise between these two extremes. Yours sincerely, ANTHONY JACOBS (Joint Treasurer of the Liberal Party), 9 Nottingham Terrace, NW1, September 29.

Arrests in Prague From the President of the International Jazz Federation and others Sir, We write to express our astonishment and indignation at the arrest in Prague of leading members of the Jazz Section of the Musicians' Union of Czechoslovakia. As implied in your leader (September 29) the Jazz Section has been persecuted by the authorities for no other reason than that it is autonomous and popular.

A State which regards itself threatened by a jazz club is certainly not a normal member of the international community, and a State which is prepared to imprison innocent people in order to stifle independent culture is one with which Her Majesty's Government ought not to deal as an equal. The Jazz Section is a member of the International Jazz Federation and we call on all members of that federation to express their support for their persecuted colleagues. We also call on Her Majesty's Government to bring pressure to bear on the Czech authorities, whose action has violated the spirit and the letter of the Helsinki accords, and put in question the future of cultural relations between Czechoslovakia and the West.

An opportunity to do this will be presented at the Helsinki review conference in Vienna in November, and it is an opportunity which must be taken. Yours sincerely, CHARLES ALEXANDER (President, International Jazz Federation), NORMAN ST JOHN-STEVAS, TOM STOPPARD, KINGSLEY AMIS, 194 Regent's Park Road, NW1.

Post haste From Mr J. A. Batten Sir, The Chairman of the Post Office is surely being disingenuous and complacent in remarking (letter, October 3) that the four letters you published were delivered by the next working day; obviously within that space of time you could only publish those you had received. What about all the other letters posted at the same time and which are perhaps still in the course of delivery?

I hope, Sir, you will forgive me if I remain sceptical and send these thoughts to you by telex. Yours faithfully, J.A. BATTEN, 4 North Quay, St Peter Port, Guernsey, G.I.

From Miss J. H. F. Green Sir, Would not the Chairman of the Post Office (report, September 27) be compelled to revise his suspect figures relating to delivery times of letters if all dissatisfied recipients reported late delivery to their local postmaster? Yours faithfully, J. F. GREEN, Pool Meadow, Back Lane, Cross-in-Hand, Heathfield, Sussex.

Unilateralism called in question

From Viscount Trenchard Sir, Further to your interesting leader article on Tuesday, September 30, on defence, and now that we have had the benefit of hearing parts of Mr Kinnock's speeches at the Labour Party conference, I would expect that other readers have been wondering, as I have, why such an intelligent man as Mr Kinnock has taken up such an extreme position, not only of unilateral nuclear disarmament but of forgoing any request to be covered by the US nuclear deterrent.

I have a feeling that the answer must lie in two directions. The first is that he and his colleagues must believe that the Russians will never use nuclear weapons against Europe and presumably that they will never threaten their use in order to obtain any objective. He is entitled to his opinion of the modern objectives from Moscow, but it can only be an opinion in relation to an all-powerful leadership in the Kremlin, both present and future at any one time. I believe the British public would prefer a sound insurance policy.

The second reason for his current position must, I think, be that he has believed those advocates who suggest that if we cancel Trident and use modern technology efficiently, and if our Allies will increase conventional arms by some 3 per cent, then we would be able to deter a Russian conventional attack. Lord Carver has been an advocate of this theme for a long time.

Once again, however, Mr Kinnock must realise that this, like Soviet aims, is no more than a thesis, a thesis which is bound to take the best part of a decade to prove. It is a thesis which suggests that the trend of the past decade during which the Russians have tended to close the technological gap with the West, would be instantly reversed.

When I was at the Ministry of Defence all concerned were actively trying to promote the strengthening of conventional weapons by the use of modern technology; but I don't think any of those with up-to-date experience would claim that we are more advanced than the Russians at the present time. Wistful thoughts are attractive to politicians, but the facts at the moment are that in conventional arms in the European area the Russians have twice the fire power on land and in the air, and if we look globally at the two super-powers on the figures of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, we find such figures as US overall strength of tanks, 13,423; USSR, 52,600.

Credit where due From Mr G. J. Beers Sir, I find it very sad that, immediately following the announcement of Mr Denhoff's release, we are subjected to an analysis on television as to whether it is Mr Reagan or Mr Gorbachov who has been "forced" to compromise and has therefore "climbed down".

In this country it is the same every time a public figure changes his or her mind, or agrees with something with which they have previously disagreed - they are portrayed as having been humiliated, this being the word most frequently used.

Why should this be? The purpose of any debate or negotiation is to bring about a change of mind in at least one of the parties, and if this is achieved then surely it is to be welcomed and not belittled. We all know that in our personal lives we are continually changing our views or attitudes with changing circumstances. This is not to say that we are changing our principles, merely that we are being reasonable in reaching an accommodation with our colleagues and neighbours.

Why should it be that a public figure cannot behave in a reasonable manner without being denigrated? It must make their work even more difficult than it already is. Yours faithfully, G. J. BEERS, Lamellan, Cherry Garden Lane, Maidenhead Thicket, Berkshire.

Aids reassurance From Dr Felix Mann Sir, There has been a great deal of publicity in the Press and on radio and television about the danger of contracting Aids from doctors' needles.

In my own acupuncture practice, where needles are a sine qua non, reputable practitioners use disposable needles, thus obviating any possibility of infection. People needing treatment have the option of telephoning beforehand to find out whether the doctor to whom they are entrusting their health does or does not take this elementary precaution. Yours sincerely, FELIX MANN, 15 Devonshire Place, W1, September 29.

Out of sight From Lord Craigton Sir, One knows the person, but cannot remember the name. A name label is worn, but the print is so small or indistinct that it cannot be read without bending down and peering - thus revealing one's social shortcomings.

Would meeting organisers please provide name labels with the wearer's name large and clear enough to be read at a glance? Yours faithfully, CRAIGTON, 36 Station Road, Egham, Surrey.

CAPITOL PUNISHMENT

Congressmen who are ringing their bells this week, may next year be wringing their hands. Their defeat of President Reagan over the vexed issue of sanctions against South Africa, was a triumph for the American Constitution with its complex checks and balances of power. But their punitive measures could lead to disaster for almost everyone else.

The impact of the new sanctions on South Africa itself will be unequivocally bad. According to one early estimate they should cut the country's exports to the United States - its biggest trading partner - by one third. Senators acknowledge that they will not end apartheid overnight. Pretoria has been bracing itself for the shock which, as President Reagan himself has warned, will probably be felt more by the country's blacks than by anyone else. But the telephone call which Mr "Pik" Botha so unwisely made to the Senate before the vote, reflects real concern in Pretoria over the damage.

It is equally bad news for Britain and those other countries which have firmly opposed similar pressures in Europe. Whitehall has tried to portray the American package as an attempt by Washington to catch up on the Europeans - who introduced their own measures last month. But these hardly match those now adopted by Congress. To a large extent, Britain and West Germany (the two nations most opposed to tougher measures) have already passed the main pressure points. But the Dutch and Danish governments will make sure that the issue resurfaces at the next meeting of Community foreign ministers in three weeks time, with a ban on coal imports looking like the most tempting target.

It could also become bad news for a number of landlocked front-line states in Southern Africa, however loud their welcome for the outcome on Capitol Hill. The White House is preparing to balance the negative effect of sanctions with proposals for increased aid for Southern Africa - concentrating effort on regional transport. But if Pretoria carries out its threat to impose sanctions of its own on those countries which now have to channel about four-fifths of their external trade through South Africa, the region will need more than the \$500 million extra aid which is being talked about in Washington.

But the heaviest impact of all should be felt in Washington itself, where Republican congressmen, with mid-term elections coming up, could come to regret inflicting on President Reagan his first major foreign policy reverse in six years. Rebellious senators have argued that this was an issue on which ordinary Americans felt more deeply than their president. They wanted to be on the right side of history. By voting for sanctions, Congressmen were reflecting, not opposing, public opinion.

The sanctions package has certainly left no doubt over US opposition to apartheid. But few people in the United States have more than a confused idea of the political situation in South Africa. That sanctions might do more harm than good is a danger still too little understood. What this week's events have done is to weaken the president's position just before a crucial summit with the Russians. It is arguable that the issues at the summit are so different that the sanctions vote will do him

little harm. But it will have done him no good either.

The entire episode demonstrates that in democratic politics negative opposition, however justified rationally, is rarely sufficient. A political leader who wishes to prevail must produce a positive policy that has prospect of meeting the objectives of his opponents. Congress was determined to pass some package of measures that would have a real impact on South Africa. When Mr Reagan failed to outline a programme of assistance to South Africa's blacks that would undermine apartheid by a different and more hopeful route, sanctions were apparently the only method of intervention left to them.

Should Mr Reagan have tried to pre-empt the Senate vote by adopting virtually all the measures in an executive order of his own. If that tactic had succeeded, Congressmen would have got what they wanted while he would have retained control of foreign policy, giving the White House more flexibility in its future relations with Pretoria. But sanctions had become a symbol of opposition to apartheid in US politics and it is probable that a last-minute concession from the White House would have made little or no difference.

In the end the President took the view that to endorse sanctions now would both have made nonsense of his previous opposition and restrained him from attempting to overturn them in the future if their consequences tended to justify his worst fears. He has metaphorically shrugged off responsibility for the new measures, leaving Congress to take the rap. But whether he or the Senate has indeed chosen the right side of history, only history itself can reveal.

MR KINNOCK'S MODERATION

Labour began, conducted and finished its conference in a mood of disciplined euphoria. This was such a remarkable contrast to Labour's usual exhibition of ideological free-style wrestling that it has been widely heralded as an early portent of electoral success. Labour, so the theory goes, will enter the next election as a united party, devoted to moderate policies, organised by an efficient party machine, and headed by an adroit and personable leader in Neil Kinnock.

Even allowing for the fact that the delegates' euphoria at Blackpool apparently rubbed off on the press and television, this judgement of the Labour conference contains much that is true. The conference was well-managed, the presentation skilful, and Mr Kinnock's personal performance assured. Above all the party was united - and other things being equal, a united party is more likely to attract the support of voters than a disunited one.

The result has been a series of temporary compromises that lean heavily to the left. Perhaps the purest example of this is the decision, after a wholly inadequate debate, to phase out nuclear power over an unspecified period. The promise to phase out is a concession to the combined forces of the Left and the miners, neatly joined in Mr

Arthur Scargill, whereas the indefinite character of the phasing out period (one union leader suggested between 20 and 120 years) has kept the other power unions quiet.

Plainly, that is a compromise that cannot be maintained for long. And what is true for the compromise on nuclear power also goes for those on the economy, defence, foreign policy, and much else. Labour's is a "white-knuckle unity" maintained by grim will-power against nature. The only question is whether it can survive a heated election campaign.

Potentially more damaging to Labour is the character of its policies on defence and the economy. Even on the indulgent interpretation of Mr Hattersley's spending plans offered by the Institute of Fiscal Studies, Labour will have to find more money than will be raised by higher taxes on those earning above £27,000. Public opinion is traditionally suspicious of Labour's competence in economic and fiscal matters - as older Labour MPs will recall from the 1959 election in which Hugh Gaitskell's plans for higher spending, depicted as irresponsible by the Tories, were a significant factor in his defeat.

On defence, Labour has firmly attached itself to a unilateralist policy which the

voters have equally firmly rejected in previous elections. It threatens a status quo which has maintained peace in Europe at a time when wars have raged in areas of the world outside Nato's nuclear umbrella. And it will be denounced not merely by Ministers but by most newspapers, defence experts, other Opposition parties, and even some former Labour Ministers who remain true to their convictions in office. The chances must be that it will become a serious vote loser for Labour.

The defence issue may also direct the attention of voters to the more general question of Labour's "moderation" which is largely an illusion achieved by moving the entire spectrum of Labour opinion to the Left. It was said by commentators yesterday that hard-line demands that Britain should leave Nato had been rejected by the conference. But the policy actually passed - to remove all US nuclear bases from Britain in the first year of a Labour government - would have been regarded as wildly extreme in the party of James Callaghan and Harold Wilson.

Labour has changed dramatically - and the Blackpool conference ratified the change quietly. But it should not be assumed that the voters will fail to recognise the change for all that.

FOURTH LEADER

Now that the nation has recovered from the excess of bliss represented by the wedding of Prince Andrew to the then Miss Sarah Ferguson, a more critical scrutiny may with propriety be directed to one aspect of it that has profound ceremonial and even constitutional implications. It was reported in the Church Times that Miss Ferguson pledged her troth in West-plighted her troth in Westminster Abbey while putting forward her left hand, contrary to the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer, which demand the right.

It is a pity that Parliament did not attend to this innovation before the recess. That institution's august Ecclesiastical Committee has recently required of the Church of England, as a price of its consent to women being allowed to be deacons, that a certain rubric be changed from "shall" to "may" (or vice versa). Perhaps a similar adjustment to the rite of marriage would take care of further wedding-day absent-mindedness, particularly in the interests of stamping out discrimination against the left-handed.

It is a comfort that a spokesperson for the Archbishop of Canterbury has given an assurance that wrong-headedness in matters of marriage ritual is not per se grounds for nullity. It seems unlikely that Miss Ferguson is a secret Ritualist, trying to sneak sinister Italian church practices past the Primate of All England.

But given the speed with which dress designers ensure that not-quite-carbon copies of the Wedding Dress were in all the appropriate shops next day, and given the alacrity with which a certain hair style, prominent at an earlier Royal Wedding, became overnight the standard in every High Street, it is too much to hope that this is the last we shall hear of left-handed plight-trothing.

Is it not true that Queen Victoria's grasping of a chicken drum-stick (whether with left or right hand is not reported) was the signal for the general adoption of this easy solution to a hitherto tricky challenge to manipulative skills? Is it not also true (or was it just another jibe from Ronald Knox?) that a prelatial false

step at a Roman Mass became the overnight fashion in Anglo-Catholic circles, who believed the Vatican had introduced an extra genuflexion?

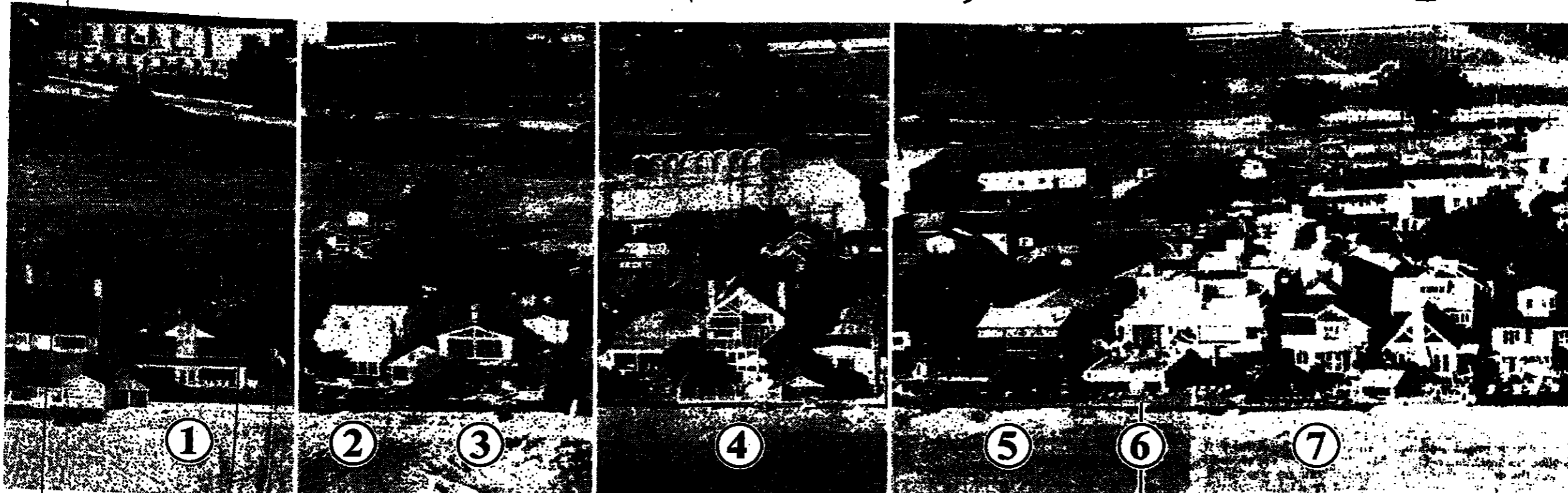
There is therefore no weight in the dismissive approach to matters of etiquette and rubric; the idea that grown-ups have better things to worry about. These are the better things. The road that begins with an accidental proffering of an about-to-be royal left-hand ends with royal weddings under water in swimming pools. And we have no reason to think Dr Runcie would look well in snorkel gear with rubber flippers.

The Crown Appointments Commission would start considering candidates for his succession, when that comes due, on an entirely false basis: the ability to maintain an aura of primacy in submarine circumstances. It would be rather better if the Archbishop were to revise his recent assurances: a wrong-headed approach to marriage, he should say, is an ancient Royal Prerogative and a privilege of brides of naval officers, no-one else.

SATURDAY

A weekly guide to leisure, entertainment and the arts

If you're Johnny Carson, I'm moving in



There is a place where the stars shine all day and its name is Malibu. It doesn't have any mains drainage and the other thing it smells of is money. The famous live so close together they have to park their egos on the beach. Douglas Thompson reports from the far shores of reality

It is 22 miles long, half a mile wide and festooned with rats. Anna O. Nilsson, a household name only in households whose occupants remember silent movie stars, made it famous. But she was no rat. She was Swedish and beautiful and awfully persuasive. She took celebrity out to the beach at Malibu, convincing the civic leaders - who had previously put a block on "Hollywood people" - that they should let her in. They did, in exchange for a promise that Miss Nilsson would not "smoke, drink or carouse".

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man look uninventive by comparison; and some of the stories are reputed to be capable of passing a lie-detector test. Take Alex Mass, who literally walked into the life of three-times divorced talk show host Johnny Carson. Alex amassed her undisputed qualities in a bikini and strolled past Carson's house. Then she strolled past again. And again and again until Carson invited her inside. She is still there, Carson's "constant companion".

(1) Bob Newhart now owns the house that started it all (2) Actor Rod Steiger, of the Method school, finds sandy solace (3) Bob Chartoff, the Rocky producer, finds sandy solace (4) Can singer/songwriter Joni Mitchell like it? Seemingly (5) Burgess Meredith, Batman penguin turned beachman (6) Larry Hagman loves it and shoots from the rooftops, left (7) William Blatty, Exorcist writer, worries about the smell

Builder Herve Baineau moved to Malibu in 1929 and has seen them all come and go. He is the Malibu memory man: "In those days you could build a house in a week for a couple of thousand dollars. And we were putting up one a week. Folks would come down from town for the weekend and say 'I want one'. I was young enough then to oblige them. But Herb Brown (who built Number One Malibu Colony) showed the way. He had funny ideas. He used fireproof brick and then he built a wall around the property, a big wall that has helped save the property more than once."

Baineau recalls Bing Crosby's arrival in 1942. "He was married to Dixie Lee then - there was her and all the boys. They were a little rough. Bing used to drink a little then and we'd all end up across the street at the Malibu Inn after work".

For Crosby it was the time of the movie Holiday Inn, the everlasting White Christmas and the second adventure with Bob Hope in The Road to Morocco.

"Bing did some remodeling. Everybody who moves to Malibu does some remodeling. Something to do with their money, I suppose." Baineau says that Robert Redford "adored the freedom" of Malibu: "It's the attraction for all of these sort of people. They can walk on the beach, go to the stores and not be bothered. The roughest thing that's going to happen is somebody pointing at their car."

"It's getting more like the old days - the movie crowd is coming back in droves. Especially producers. We've had five or so get here in as many weeks. One hit movie and they move to Malibu. But the veterans, the ones that move away, they always come back. Can't resist it."

One man's Malibu

Rich menu: where to eat, what to drink, new ways to cook - page 15

SATURDAY

Table with 2 columns: Arts/Entertainment categories and page numbers. Includes: Arts Diary 17, Gardening 14, Bridge 15, Out and About 13, Chess 15, Opera 18, Concerts 18, Radio 18, Crossword 17, Review 17, Dance 18, Rock & Jazz 17, Drink 15, Shopping 14, Eating Out 15, Television 18, Films 18, Travel 12, Galleries 18, TV films 18.

Bing and the Bobs



Hot Christmas: Bing Crosby went straight to number one



Hot profits: Robert Redford loved it, Bob Newhart bought it

The first house to be built at Malibu by a movie star now consists of four bedrooms, a massive living area, a guest house with two bedrooms and a three-car garage (a luxury on the cramped beachside). But its main attraction is unchanged - a front door facing the beach. 1925: Anna O. Nilsson, silent movie star, bought the land. 1927: Librettist Nacio Herb Brown (Broadway Melody, Singin' In The Rain) bought Nilsson's and adjacent land, built a house for \$3,500. 1942: Bought by Bing Crosby for \$200,000 but rented

out regularly. Tagged The Bing Crosby House attracted customers and pushed up the rent. Late '50s: Rented by Disney cartoonist Lesley Ackerman (Lady and the Tramp, Sleeping Beauty). Various other major and minor celebrities rented the house until 1982: Bought for a bargain \$1,850,000 by Robert Redford on the proceeds of early successes (Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, The Sting, All The Presidents Men). 1984: Redford sells for \$2 million to producer-agent Jeff Wald, husband of singer Helen Reddy. 1986: Bought by comedian Bob Newhart for \$3 million.

Advertisement for Victoria Wine of the Month. Features a large image of a wine glass with 'MERCIER' on it. Text includes: 'VICTORIA WINE OF THE MONTH', 'MERCIER CHAMPAGNE BRUT RESERVE NON-VINTAGE', 'ONLY THE VERY FINEST OF CHAMPAGNES COMBINE DELICACY, ELEGANCE AND FRESHNESS. THAT'S WHY THIS IS THE CHAMPAGNE THE FRENCH LOVE TO CELEBRATE WITH.', 'ENJOY YOUR MERCIER AT ITS BEST. SERVE CHILLED TO FULLY APPRECIATE ITS SUBTLE BOUQUET.', '£8.99 Per bottle', 'Discount on 6 bottles or more.', 'THE VICTORIA WINE COMPANY'.

Advertisement for Langdale Lake District. Features a photograph of a house. Text includes: 'Share with your family the beauty of the Lake District.', 'Langdale Time Ownership in the heart of the Lake District National Park. For a single modest payment now you and your family can enjoy a lifetime of holidays - with luxurious accommodation, unrivalled leisure facilities and breathtaking surroundings.', 'Your own £130,000 Scandinavian lodge with every creature comfort - sauna, double whirlpool bath, superb leather furniture and Gaggenau equipped kitchen.', 'The Pillar Club with tropical pool, squash courts, hydro-spa, steam room, saunas and solaria. The immense choice of exciting outdoor activities that only the Lake District can offer.', 'For now and generations to come they're all yours at Langdale. Phone or return the coupon. We'll send your free 20 page brochure without obligation.', 'Phone: Langdale (09667) 391 (24 hours).', 'LANGDALE Share in the beauty of the Lakes.', 'The Langdale Partnership, Great Langdale, near Ambleside, Cumbria LA 22 9JD. Telephone: Langdale (09667) 391. Please send me your free 20 page colour brochure.', 'Name: _____', 'Address: _____', 'Telephone: _____', '© Times Newspapers Ltd 1986'.

TRAVEL 1

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

24
SI

Days of wine and poses down under

Australia's victory in the America's Cup put Perth on the jet set's map.

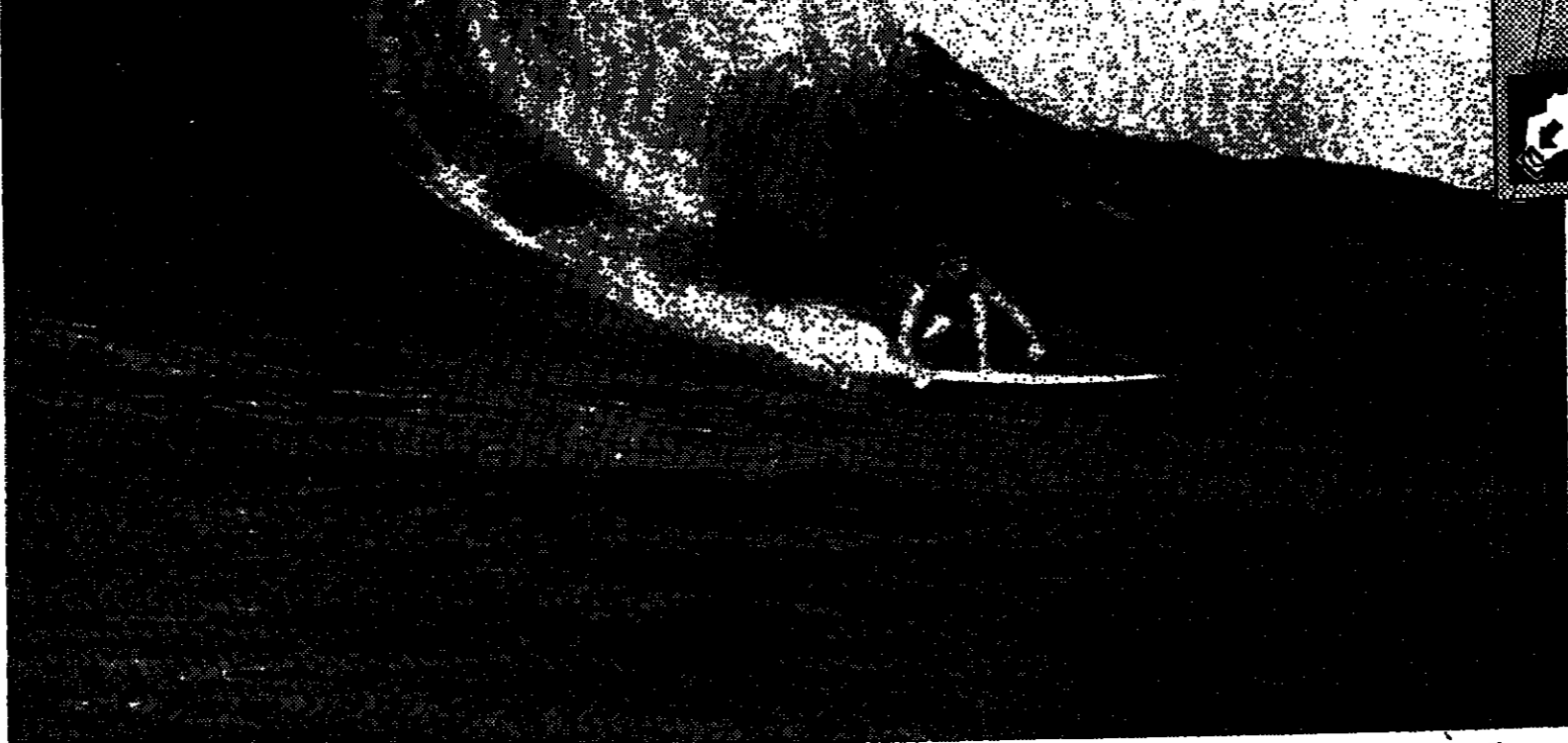
The defence has just begun, and until February the world will be wearing out the airlines to Western Australia. For those seeking escape from yachts, Shona Crawford Poole suggests heading south through the vineyards

Busselton. As the man in the bottle-shop put it: "You couldn't make money out of ulcers in this town." But at the end of a dry day on the South-Western Highway out of Perth, past the sign on the side of the flour mill painted by Bondy in person (at the time when Western Australia's best-known son was making his first mark on the economy), when the last shop selling "vegies" was far behind and the surrounding cattle country already seemed familiar, a spot of lunch would have gone down a treat.

Waroona, just a few bungalows and a petrol station, signalled no sustenance. Harvey was the next town on the route. The name sounded friendly enough, but the drab girl in the pizza parlour looked at the clock and said with no regret that it was too late at 1.30. There did not seem to be an alternative restaurant so, with beer and a snack from a petrol station on the way, we looked for a lane in which to picnic.

The hamburger, my partner's choice, was livid with beetroot. My bacon-and-egg burger was drenched in ketchup the colour of dried blood. Only starvation would have made either palatable. So we drank the beer and focused on the beauty of the scene, a flock of ibis lifting off from a marshy field to soar into the perfect blue of an afternoon thermal.

Further down the highway, the port at Busselton was big on cranes and containers, short on quays to dangle your legs over, or fishing boats, or teas. The cliff path view from the headland, topped with a prop-



Creeping in on the crest of a cult: a Saturday morning ritual enacted by skilful young men on the bare, secretive coast of Western Australia

Bowling Club were absorbed in their afternoon game as the road wound south, and the names on the map began to team up with labels on bottles — Cape Mentelle, Redgate, Leeuwin Estate, Chateau Xanadu, Sandalford and Redbrook, to name a few of the Margaret River vineyards. Margaret River's wide main street was as quiet as the grave on Friday night. No matter at all that the bedroom overlooked the road. The blinds, snapped up next morning on a scene of unexpected animation. Rugged pick-ups with chunky tyres were vying with family saloons for prime park-

ing spots outside the emporium opposite. It was the rural equivalent of a department store, selling everything essential for country living from ploughshares to feed, by way of rings for the noses of bulls to pocket-size slivers of Arkansas stone for sharpening fish hooks and pen knives. People went about their business wearing fresh Saturday morning shirts and open, neighbourly smiles. Just a few miles away on the bare secretive coast, quite different Saturday morning rituals were being honoured. On a headland high above the dunes and scrub of Calgardup

ward. Then, too fast to see how it was done, they had all sprung on to their boards and were creaming in on the crest of a single wave. It was plainly dangerous, skilful and exhilaratingly lovely to watch. Small wonder that it has become a cult. Before he made his first million "it was just a beer-drinking surfer", said Denis Horgan, front man of the Denis and Tricia Horgan team that is the envy of the state. You will hear people say that wine made in the winery they founded, and which is today a front runner of the booming Australian wine business, is overpriced. There is suspicion that commissioning painting by the likes of Sidney Nolan and William Boissvain to reproduce on wine labels put the price of Leeuwin Estate wines.



TRAVEL NOTES

British Airways (01-897 4000) has four flights a week directly to Perth. October prices start at £815 return. First class is £3,420 return. Jetset Tours, 64-76 New Oxford Street, London WC1 (01-631 0501) offers inclusive packages to Perth for the preliminary America's Cup races from £1,097 for 14 nights, with accommodation, car hire and BA direct flights. The Ship Resort Hotel, Albert Street, Busselton (097 52 3611) charges from £16 a night for a double room. The Margaret River Hotel, Bussell Highway, Margaret River (097 57 2655) charges from about £21 a night for a double room.

A species of eucalyptus which grow so tall that driving through them in the dark they took on the nightmare outlandishness of an illustration for the brothers Grimm. Karri trees and black swans are on every itinerary. In the great natural harbour of Albany, where the last whale was flensed in 1978, the Cheynes Beach Whaling Company station at Frenchman Bay trades on its bloody past as a museum and souvenir shop. It was here in the bay that the black swans, state-emblem and blazoned on beer cans, finally put in an appearance.

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EGYPT

IT'S SO BIG IT COVERS THE WHOLE AUSTRALIA

TRAVEL 2

OUT AND ABOUT

The heart of the lost domain

Wandering through the Berry region of France, Jean Robertson found an author's landscape



Since first reading Henri Alain-Fournier's *Le Grand Meaulnes* many years ago, I have wanted to see the countryside of the Berry — the true heroine of his only novel. Published in 1913, it was selected as a runner-up for the Prix Goncourt. He was 26, but before his 27th birthday he was killed on the Western Front.

His grave is unknown but his pays, the Cher region of the Berry, lies south of the Touraine and north of the Auvergne, between two great north-south arteries of France, the N10 and N7, and is by-passed by all but the most curious wanderer. With its heaths and woodlands, small fields neatly enclosed by thick-set hedges, rows, lakes, rivers, marshes and mist, it is a private sliver of France, almost undisturbed by tourism.

Everywhere pine and birch strain upwards like the spires of the Romanesque village churches, and in 1986 it is all much as Alain-Fournier knew it.

Bourges, the regional capital, deserves at least one night's stop (ideally at the Hotel d'Angleterre or the slightly cheaper Hostellerie du Grand Angerier — both within walking distance of most sights worth seeing). Bourges is convenient for daily sorties north and south — though I chose to stay in the countryside, returning there as the grand finale.

Small as it is, Bourges is grand in every sense, from its great, five-porched cathedral to the cobbled lanes and half-timbered timber barn, the palaces, museums and churches. Les Jardins des Prés Fichaux, on the south-western edge of the city proper, are imaginative, serene and fun.

We drove down La Route Jacques-Coeur along a little chain of châteaux, abbeys and churches, historic towns and villages, art galleries and museums. The road has taken its name from Charles VII's treasurer.

Driving due south from Paris on the N7, we left the highway at Châtillon Coligny to join the D43 en

Dream land: Henri Alain-Fournier, who made the countryside his heroine route for the great international hunting museum at Gien. The Musée de la Chasse, housed in the Chateau Gien high above the Loire, will rivet the anti-bloodsport fraternity as much as it fascinates the hunting, shooting and fishing folk. The little town of Gien itself, heavily bombed in the Second World War, is a masterpiece of faithful yet imaginative reconstruction. Siting prettily on the south bank of the Loire, its turrets, spires and steep roofs grey and shining, Gien is a pleasant place to break a journey.

Try dining at the Beau Rivage, a small traditional hotel (allow £20 each including wine, tax and service), then stroll over the bridge to take bed and breakfast at the Solhotel which has a glorious view of river, town and chateau (about £25 for two).

Leaving Gien you leave the Loire itself, but not the waters that feed it. We pushed on to the Sologne, sustained by the Sauldre and the Nère, the forested hunting country broken by lakes and heaths, which figures powerfully in the escapades of Meaulnes. But first a stop at the

A few kilometres up the road is the Chateau Concanay. A grand party was held here for the village and the estate when Alain-Fournier was a boy. The chateau was hung with lights and there was fancy dress and a fine spread on the table, all accompanied by music and dancing. The child never forgot the event and Concanay is one of the châteaux which his imagination wove into the magical domain in the Sologne, "which seemed to be run by children" and where *La Fête Etrange* took place.

In stern contrast to chateau-wandering is the stark Cistercian abbey of Noirlac (just north of Saint-Amand), where the only concessions to the flesh are its pastoral setting, sweet-smelling cloisters and a wine cellar. The only fireplace in the vast stone structure is in the room that served the monks as a dormitory. The Abbey church now serves as a concert hall mainly for vocal music: if your stay in the area happens to coincide with a performance, it is hard to think of a lovelier way of spending an evening than at this severely ascetic Glyndebourene.

There is plenty of scope for good walking at La Verrière, a solitary little palace on a lake in woodlands north of Bourges; and for taking a few more steps into the world of Alain-Fournier.

He was born at La Chapelle-d'Angillon (the small house is in the main street but it has acquired a second storey since 1886) and the local chateau (another strand in the magical tapestry of *La Fête Etrange*) has a permanent exhibition of everything the owners have garnered about the life, times, surroundings and thoughts of Alain-Fournier.

Nancay, 30km from La Verrière and famous for its *sablés* and observatory (the largest in France), was also the home of Alain-Fournier's father. It was here that the Fourniers gathered annually for a family holiday with the Rivières — Henri's uncle Florent (Florentine of the novel), Aunt Julie (sister to Alain-Fournier père) and his nine cousins. The Rivières kept a grocery and cotton goods store, and the church at Nancay, which can still be viewed. The cramped mud-floored rooms, peopled with lay figures, hardly fit the child's memory of "this bazaar which I thought would never come to an end of so many marvels".

TRAVEL NOTES

Air France Holidays (01-568 6981) offers France drive packages from £112 (plus a 25 currency surcharge) each for two people travelling together. The seven-night fly-drive package costs from £190 each and there is a currency surcharge of £5 per day. Saint-Amand is a convenient centre for visiting the Berry south of Bourges. The Hotel de la Poste costs about £20 for two, including breakfast. The Chateau de la Commanderie is only a few minutes' drive from Saint-Amand. Prices from £55-£65 for two; dinner £20 each.



Eminent man and Victorian residence

It is 1864 and Thomas Carlyle, writer and thinker, is taking tea in his back dining-room with the novelist Geraldine Jewsbury. No doubt he is holding forth with characteristic vigour. Meanwhile, just the other side of the door, on the floor of the tiny cupboard-like room known as the china closet, Mary — the latest in a long line of maidservants — is, with gritted teeth, giving birth to a baby.

Just one incident in the long black comedy that was the home life of the Carlyles at Cheyne Row, Chelsea, where they spent "two and thirty years of hard battle against Fate". The baby, by the way, was smuggled out of the house that night and it was months before Mary's employers knew anything about it.

At the best of times life was hard enough for the domestics, what with the incessant demands of Mrs C, and the Sage himself descending to the basement kitchen late at night to smoke and brood. The fastidious Jane forbade smoking above stairs, so the kitchenmaid would be turfed out of her primitive living quarters to wait, shivering, in the scullery until the master had composed himself for bed.

It is difficult now to appreciate the awe in which the Victorians held Thomas Carlyle. Today those great difficult volumes — Sartor Resartus, *The French Revolution*

and *Oliver Cromwell*, and so on — are little read outside academic circles, but happily the house remains, a tall, thin terraced house of just after 1700, open to the public now as it has been for 90 years or so.

In fact it is still an atmospheric Victorian cultural shrine; here may be seen such relics of Carlyle worship as "the pen with which Carlyle wrote the last chapters of *Frederick the Great*", or his camelhair dressing-gown, his straw hat, a plaster cast of his hand. Almost every part of the house remains unaltered. The downstairs parlour is still precisely the "Chelsea Interior" of Robert Tait's painting which now hangs there: Carlyle defiantly puffing a churchwarden pipe, Jane staring tensely into space. It was a good thing, someone remarked at the time, that Thomas Carlyle had married Jane Welsh, since this limited the misery to two victims instead of four. He had a point.

Carlyle demanded absolute peace and quiet for his work, and you can still view his famous "sound-proof room" at the top of the house. Built with the utmost ingenuity, this in fact contrived to amplify

Carlyle's House, 24 Cheyne Row, London SW3 (01-352 7087) is open until the end of October, Wed-Sun, 11am-5pm.



Preservation order: Carlyle's drawing room (top) and the facade of his house in Chelsea

the noises from the river, and didn't even keep out the cry of the "demon fowl" owned by neighbours which had first driven him up there.

Today the noise of traffic and aeroplanes would be enough to madden anyone, but in the little walled garden, it is surprisingly peaceful. Carlyle found the garden "of admirable comfort" to me, in the *smoking way*; I can wander about in dressing-gown and straw hat in it, as of old, and take my pipe in peace". (Without even having to oust a maidservant.)

The time has long gone, when crowds of sightseers would gather at the end of Cheyne Row to catch a glimpse of the Great Man. But thanks to the reverence of his disciples and the subsequent care of the National Trust, Carlyle has the best of memorials — this odd, cluttered, fascinating house, entirely unspoilt and absolutely his own.

Nigel Andrew

OUTINGS

attended by the pearly kings, queens, princes and princesses, whose original function was to safeguard the interests of the street traders who elected them. St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London WC2. Tomorrow, 3pm. Free.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS' SHOWS: This morning, a programme especially for children, this evening a gala with Paul Daniels and magic acts

PEARLY HARVEST FESTIVAL: Annual service

from Spain, Sweden, Holland, Japan and Pakistan. Devonshire Park and Congress Theatres, Compton Street, Eastbourne (0323 36363). Today, 10.30am-12.30pm (£1) and 5-8.30pm (£3.50 and £5.50). QUILTERS' GUILD PATCHWORK EXHIBITION: More than 50 items, by hand or machine quilting, in patchwork or appliqué, in English or Italian style. Paisley Museum and Art Galleries, Renfrewshire, Scotland (041 889 3151). From Mon, 10am-5pm. Free. Judy Froslang

Top flights for Florida

Price cuts on 1987 family holidays in the USA are already beginning to appear. Jetset is giving reductions of up to £250 for youngsters aged between 12 and 17 at a number of hotels in Florida and is offering flat-rate £99 holidays for children between two and 11 on selected departures from Gatwick and Manchester to Orlando. Couples aged 65 and over can also save £100 on certain Florida flights. There will be no surcharges on bookings before January 15.

Nilotic opera Thomas Cook is operating tours to Egypt next May to tie in with a season of performances of Verdi's *Aida* at the Temple of Luxor by the Arena di Verona Company and an international cast headed by Plácido Domingo. A seven-day "Discovery of Egypt" tour costs from £780, and a nine-day Nile cruise from £940, both including tickets for the performance. An alternative choice is a six-day tour with Concorde flights in one direction, priced from £1,299.

● Kuoni Travel is running tours to Australia for the 1986-87 cricket Test

TRAVEL NEWS

series. An 18-day tour to the Melbourne Test, including a five-night stopover on Bali, is priced from £985.

South Sea bubbles A month-long tour of the South Sea islands to mark the bicentenary of HMS Bounty's departure from England is being operated by Serenissima Travel in the New Year. The guest lecturer will be Glynn Christian, a descendant and biographer of Fletcher Christian, who led the famous mutiny. The party will sail from Lima on the Soviet-owned cruise liner Maxim Gorki, calling at the islands of Pitcairn, Tahiti and Tonga, before ending in Auckland for a four-day tour in New Zealand. The tour departs from Heathrow on January 24 and is priced at £3,350. Information on 01-730 9841.

Nice packages A series of low-cost charter flights from Gatwick to Nice, launched earlier this year by Euro Express, is to be extended to October 26. The flights, priced from £99 return,

operate on Thursday and Sunday. Fly-drive deals and accommodation packages in Nice and Cannes are also available. Information on 0293 775555.

Franc fairs

The French and German National Tourist Offices have both produced new brochures aimed at young budget-conscious travellers: *Young Travellers in France and Germany Live*, with advice on where to eat, drink and stay cheaply. Information: French Government Tourist Office, 178 Piccadilly, London W1 (01-491 7622) and the German National Tourist Office, 61 Conduit Street, London W1 (01-734 2600).

Philip Ray

EGYPT

Marvel at the mysterious Sphinx, the Valley of the Kings and the Tomb of Tutankhamun, or cruise on the majestic Nile past the temples of Karnak and Luxor to Aswan. You'll find details of these and other holidays, including our brand new "Egypt and Kenya" and "Egypt, Jordan and Holy Land" brochures. For our full range of escorted holidays, phone 01-629 0999 or visit any Thomas Cook or Frames Travel branch.

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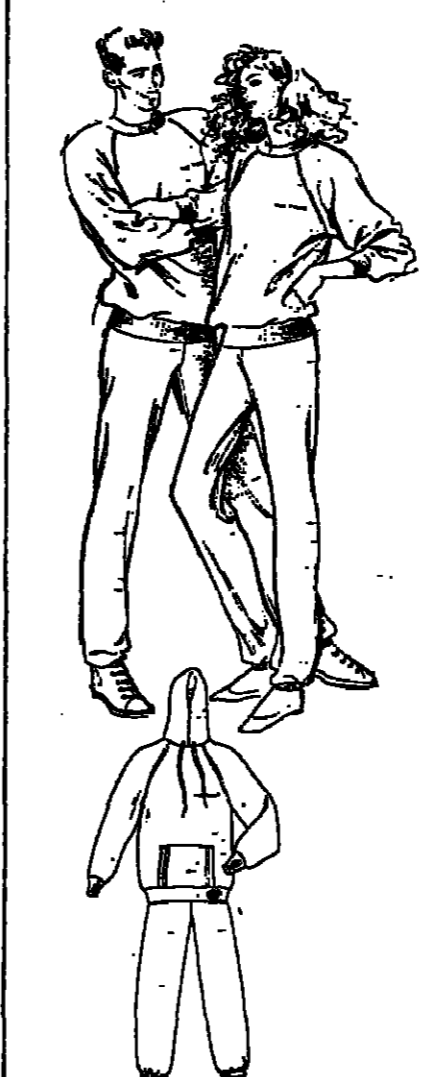
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SHOPPING

A room off the shelf?

How anyone can become an instant interior designer at a new furnishing store where seven complete 'looks' are available at the drop of a cheque

Furnishings are catching up with fashion in the high street. Jasper Conran and Katharine Hammett have set the pace by opening their own shops enabling customers to buy an entire "look" in one place. This week, Coloroll have done the same for interior design.

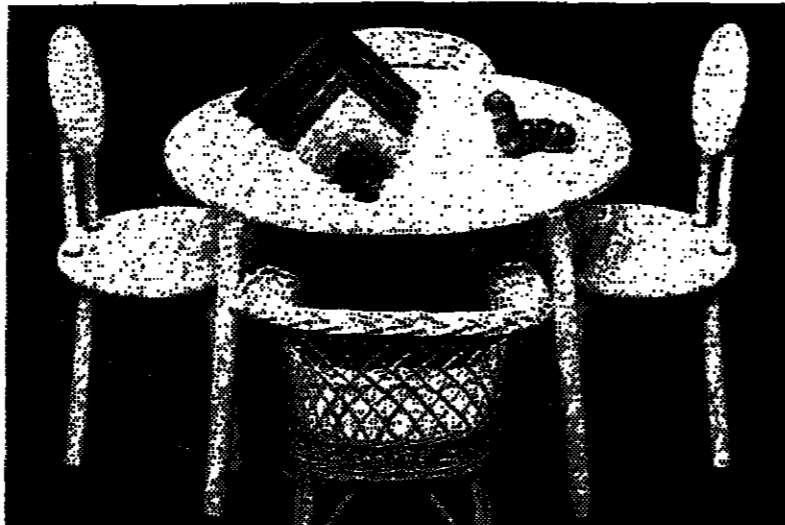
They are a company known best for their wallpapers and fabrics - particularly the Dolly Mixtures range. Their new £2 million conversion of the former Miss Selfridge shop at 156 Regent Street, London W1, launches a new identity for them as complete home furnishers.

Using a selection of their wallpaper and fabric designs, they have developed seven co-ordinated looks for living, dining, bed and bathrooms and have bought and commissioned furniture, tableware, linens and accessories to go with each. The bonus for the customer is that each complete look can be bought without trailing round from department to department to find complementary colours and textures. If you like what you see, it is there for the taking - straight off the shelves surrounding each room set.

look, which is expected to account for 25 per cent of the turnover, is on the ground floor, along with the Classic look, offering the marbled lamp-bases and classical busts used by professional decorators. The first floor is all frills and rustic charm, taking its tone from the Romantic look, represented by a brass four-poster and lavishly draped festoon curtains, and the Country Cottage look, which is full of wicker baskets and hand-painted jugs and ewers. Prices range from 99p to £1,000.

The whole effect is everything you have ever wanted from Habitat, Laura Ashley and Next all rolled into one. It has been masterminded by John Barron, the 30-year-old divisional general manager, who was formerly marketing manager of Habitat and is a likely new star in the firmament dominated by Terence Conran without challenge for 25 years.

Barron, having been "poached" for the job, was lucky enough to have a board of directors who gave him a free hand to put his ideas into practice. He carried out all his plans with the help of the store manager, Mike Evans, and only two buyers, Rachel Braine and Elizabeth Anderson.



CHILDREN: Round table £59.99, wood chairs £29.99 each and painted willow chairs £19.99 each, all in white. Angular building game £33.99 and bendy Jula caterpillar £14.99

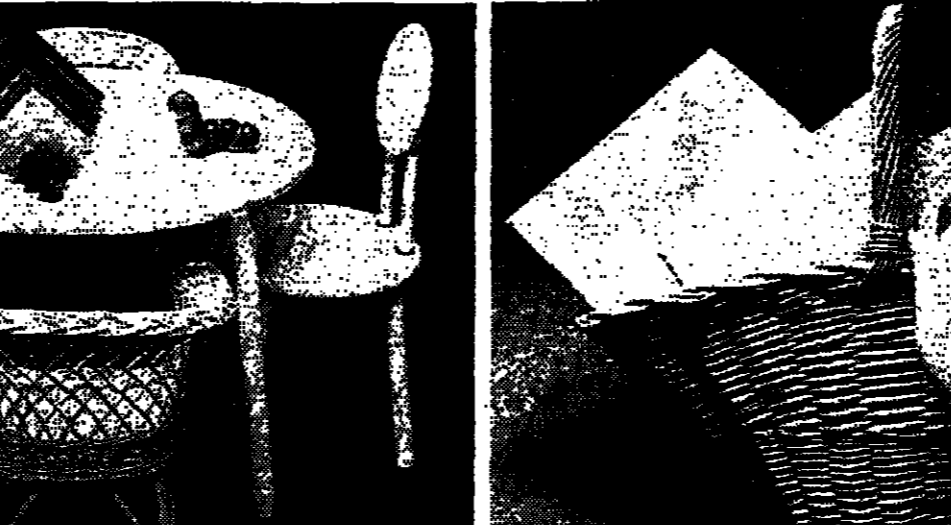


ETHNIC: Massive copper floor vessel in traditional African design, handbeaten in Anatolia £89.99. Dried grasses from 99p to £1,000.

CLASSIC (below): Best of Apollo with antiqued finish £25. Traditional chintz, Africa, in cool colours, £5.99 per metre



ROMANTIC: Brass four poster bed to fit standard divans - 5ft size shown £650. Brass washstand with white jug and bowl £349, brass glass topped table £199, Diana white duvet cover £41.99, pillowcases £5.99 pair, frilly cushions £9.99 each. Drapes and festoon curtains made to measure



ROMANTIC: Brass four poster bed to fit standard divans - 5ft size shown £650. Brass washstand with white jug and bowl £349, brass glass topped table £199, Diana white duvet cover £41.99, pillowcases £5.99 pair, frilly cushions £9.99 each. Drapes and festoon curtains made to measure



CONTEMPORARY PASTEL: Basket lacquered in lilac or pink £17.99 with a collection of duvet covers, pillowcases, sheets and valances in bright geometrics and paisleys from £24.99



COUNTRY COTTAGE: Ceramic pitcher and bowl in a variety of flower designs, hand painted in France. £29.99 each

PROGRESSIVE (below): Chrome mirror, £49.99, soap dispenser £27.99, from a collection of hi-tech fittings



show the effect of gathers and drapes and a making-up service promises finished curtains in three to four weeks. An upholstery service is available, too. Free samples of every fabric, wallpaper and bedding are available and arrangements can be made to deliver orders after office hours and on Saturdays. John Barron is determined to give the customers what they want and to break away from a pre-set style of retailing.

"The usual attitude to selling tries to segment the market into mass and AEs. By putting together a collection of looks we are not in any particular income or age niche and we can offer popular-priced furnishings side by side with the cream."

The Coloroll achievement is to present customers with off-the-peg interior decoration with a designer look. But for those who are able to buy professional expertise another

Mecca has opened - The London Interior Designers Centre at 2a Battersea Park Road, London SW8 (01-627 5000).

Here The Charles Hammond Group has built two spacious storeys to display the best fabrics and furnishings available from more than 40 British and overseas companies. On the first floor, more than 3,000 printed and woven fabrics hang in two-metre lengths under natural

light from the roof; on the ground floor there are eight room sets displaying rugs, garden and antique furniture, lamps and other furnishing accessories.

Clients will visit the centre only with an interior designer, but Charles Hammond also has a design consultancy service which it runs from its shop at 165 Sloane Street, London SW1 (01-235 2151). A consultation with a member of the design team costs £50

and house visits can also be arranged for the same fee. For an extra £80, a colour board can be made up so that the fabrics, carpet, paints and other samples can be seen together.

British attitudes to interior decoration have been in the doldrums for long enough. If only this fresh wind of change could get through to our mass furniture manufacturers, we would all be able to live in our ideal home.

NEWS LINES

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Want to put your present problems behind you? A new service called Prezies takes the worry out of giving. You can telephone Janet O'Donoghue or Jane Shaw (01-831 3098) when you haven't had time to shop for an important birthday and they will send a basket of fruits, wine and chocolates, or gift wrap and deliver a Prezies Prezies, from a hand-made perfume bottle, £18, to an ivory shaving set, £150. If you have something specific in mind which they do not have in stock they will find and buy the gift for an extra charge. They will also remind you of future anniversaries.

Small prints

Small is not only beautiful but ingenious and time-saving, when packaged in a new machine called a Copy Jack. Measuring only 6.7in x 2.5in x 1.5in, it is a hand-held copier with a "peering window" in the head and a roll of heat sensitive paper in its body. To copy text, the user presses the middle of the machine while pushing it slowly over the print, holding the end of the paper with the other hand. For writers and researchers it could be a boon, even at £299. This includes a battery recharger and five 33ft rolls of paper. Refills are 56p per pack of five. Available direct from Line Trading, 29 Enford Street, London W1 (01-629 6033)



Ingenious: the Copy Jack

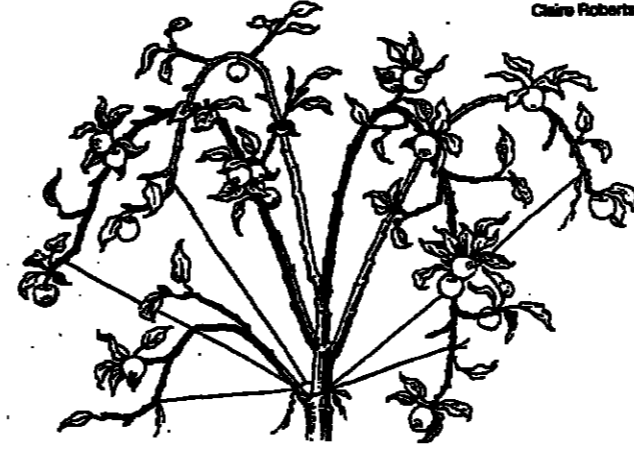
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IN THE GARDEN
Plum choices for perfect apples
With a multitude of unusual varieties available, popularity is not the only criterion for fruity satisfaction and rediscovering the pleasures of garden trees
Only in north Norfolk are you likely to be offered a dish of oven-baked Norfolk Biffins - aromatic, crimson-brown apples which look like hot buns when cooked. Grown in Norfolk since the early 1800s, they are by no means the most ancient kind. In 1629, John Parkinson, herbalist and apothecary to James I, catalogued all the apples known to be grown at that time, many of which are still available today.
When choosing apples for a garden, I would always include a local variety, not simply out of sentiment but because it is likely to thrive. The only mature full-sized tree in my garden is Lane's Prince Albert, which originated in a garden only four miles from where I live. It is a culinary variety, now widely grown, compact in form and regular to crop.
Oddly enough, the two most popular apples nationally, Cox and Bramley, are not good garden varieties. Cox is difficult to grow, finicky about setting fruit and only does well in southern counties; Bramley has an iron constitution but, even on dwarfing stock, is a vigorous tree and a triploid (it needs two other compatible types of apple for pollination).
Invaluable when planning which trees to grow is Lawrence Hill's *Good Fruit Guide*, which not only describes many varieties, with notes on growing, but shows which nurseries stock them (£2.75 inc. p and p from HDRA, National Centre for Organic Gardening, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, Coventry CV8 3LG).
Modern dwarf stocks and the revival of old forms such as fans, festoons and espaliers, which take up only a small space, enable any gardener to grow apples and provide an exciting choice. A family tree on which three or even four different varieties are grafted on to one root stock is a useful form if you require only one tree, but needs a little more care with pruning to keep a balance. (Family Trees, Botley, Hampshire SO3 2EA, (04892 6680) are specialists in this form.)
The pleasures of garden apple trees are being rediscovered: spring blossom is a joy, many varieties have attractive foliage and the trained forms are especially decorative. They are not difficult to grow and even the dwarf forms require less attention than many herbaceous plants. A good nursery is usually only too glad to advise on the cultivation and relative merits of different apples.
At this time of year, fruit growers all over the country invite the public to a tasting: the date is decided locally so watch for posters and check your local radio and newspapers. I can personally recommend Blackmoor Nursery, near Liss in Hampshire, which is holding its open day next Sunday (October 12) and plans to have about 20 different kinds of apple to taste, including Ribston Pippin and Orleans Reinette (two renowned old species) and Greensleeves, a highly recommended modern apple.
I must confess to being an enthusiast for old apples with historical associations, but there is no doubt that some of the new kinds are equally fine. Discovery, a chance seedling raised in a private garden in the early 1960s, is now deservedly the most popular early dessert apple.
Good fruit tree nurseries are: Deacon, Godshill, Isle of Wight PO 38 3HW (0983 840750); Scouts, Merriot, Somerset TA16 5PL (0460 72306); Highfield, Whitminster, Gloucester GL2 7PL (0452 740266).



WEEKEND TIPS

- Gather up dead leaves, especially on lawns, and put on compost heap - adding extra activator because leaves decay slowly. If you have large quantities, make a separate bin adding activator for every six inches of leaves.
- Hoe well to make sure your late sown crops and flowers are not overwhelmed with weeds
- If cats are a nuisance on areas planted with bulbs or seedlings, peg out netting for protection until the ground firms and new growth makes the soil less tempting.
- Plant lily bulbs such as *Lilium martagon*, *L. tigrinum*, *L. henryi*, *L. pyrenaicum* - not *madonna* lilies.
- Cut back branches of buddleia which have flowered this year to prevent them from becoming overgrown or damaged by winter winds.
- Begin to lift Jerusalem artichokes. Cut the stems off first and strip off the foliage for compost.
- Pot up one or two parsley plants which have not flowered this year for use during the winter.

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Shrinking violets
The Parma double violet was the height of fashion at the turn of the century, but now it has virtually vanished except from a few nurseries. Outdoors, it needs the protection of a cold frame, but it can be grown as a pot plant in a rich compost. In summer I leave the pots outside in a shady spot, while their winter quarters are a west-facing windowsill in a cool room where they flower freely with regular feeding.
We can still order the old names: Duchesse De Parme, pale lavender, Marie Louise, darker and more fragrant; and Swanley White, as fragrant but slightly harder. The problem is that because they were so well-known to everyone in their heyday, nobody ever thought to write down a full description of the different varieties. If any reader has a pressed specimen, a good drawing made some time in the past, or a detailed description noted in an old diary or flowerbook, Christopher

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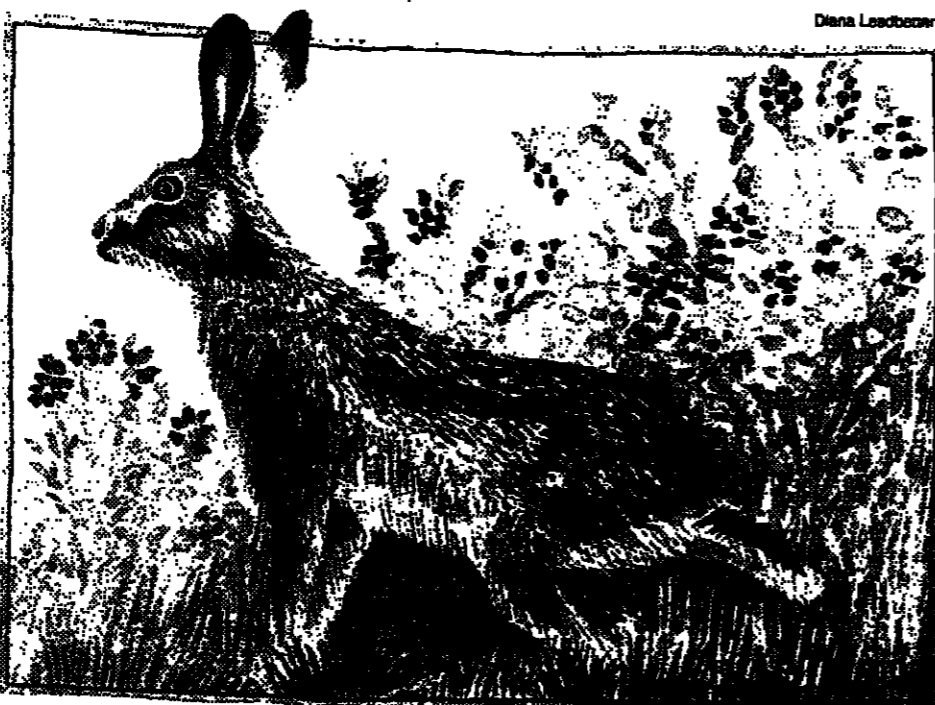
Bigger, Chess Annihilation in Leningrad

THE TIMES COOK

Shona Crawford Poole extols the under-exploited culinary virtues of hares and leverets, now in their prime

Time to run with the hare

Game birds have such brief autumn and winter seasons that they steal the thunder of furred species like hare which are available all year round.



Diana Leach-Baron

Up to the age of six months, a young hare is called a leveret and will weigh about two kilos, say four pounds.

The meat is lean and dense and robustly flavoured if the animal is young and properly hung it will be very tender.

Roast saddle of leveret Serves two to three Saddle of 1 young hare

2 tablespoons decent port 2 tablespoons olive oil 250ml (8 1/2 oz) game stock or water

Use heavy kitchen scissors to trim the ribs and a sharp pointed knife to work off the silvery layers of whitish tissue which cover the saddle.

Mix the port and oil and turn the saddle in this marinade. Leave it to marinate for two to 24 hours, then roast it

in a preheated moderately hot oven (200°C/400°F, gas mark 6) for about 30 minutes, basting frequently with oil.

Rest the saddle in a warm place for five minutes before carving. In the meantime, pour the fat from the roasting pan and add the stock or water. Over a low heat, stir to dissolve the caramelized pan juices.

Carve the saddle in long slices and serve with a spoonful of the blueberry sauce and a selection of vegetables including glazed onions.

Pappardelle - wide ribbon noodles of fresh egg pasta - served with a rich hare sauce are a classic of the Italian kitchen.

Freshly made pappardelle are not widely available so, if you cannot face making your own, use fresh tagliatelle.

I have used the legs of one young hare for this dish and roasted the saddle. The whole hare would serve six to eight.

Hare with noodles Serves four 55g (2oz) pancetta or fat bacon, finely chopped

2 tablespoons olive oil 1 medium onion, finely chopped 2 tablespoons flour to dredge

450ml (1 1/2 pint) robust red wine Salt and freshly ground black pepper 1 sprig thyme

About 450g (1lb) fresh pappardelle For the best possible flavour, make the sauce the day before it is needed. It freezes successfully, of course.

bacon in a wide sauté pan with the oil and onion. Cook on a low heat until the onion is soft but not browned.

An hour and a half will be enough if the hare is young. Leave it until quite cold, then take all the meat off the bones.

The one thing everyone knows about Mexican cooking is that it is heavy on chillies of all sorts. The second universally misunderstood fact is that Mexicans eat turkey with a chocolate sauce.

Lepre in dolce a forte Serves six to eight 1 hare, cut in pieces 1 hare, cut in pieces

For the marinade 500ml (18 1/2 oz) dry white wine 2 tablespoons wine vinegar

6 peppercorns, crushed 3 juniper berries, bruised

For the sauce 2 tablespoons olive oil 4 tablespoons raisins

2 tablespoons marsala 55g (2oz) pancetta, or fat bacon, chopped

225g (8oz) tomatoes, peeled and deseeded Sprig of thyme Bay leaf

2 tablespoons sugar 2 tablespoons water 2 tablespoons wine vinegar

30g (1oz) bitter chocolate 4 tablespoons raisins 4 tablespoons pine nuts

Mix all the ingredients for the marinade. Add the pieces of hare and leave it to marinate for 24 hours.

Heat the oil in a fireproof casserole and sweat the pancetta or bacon. Add the hare pieces and brown them on all sides.

When the hare is almost done, dissolve the sugar in the water, then heat to a light caramel. In the meantime, melt the chocolate in the vinegar.

Blend accompaniments like pasta or polenta set off this robust dish.

DRINK

Fine winter warmers

A selection of low-priced claret to put a glow on chilly October evenings

As the days get shorter, the nights get colder and we all get grumpier, wine in my household rapidly becomes a necessity rather than an indulgent luxury.

Wine drinkers in this country may grumble about the onset of cold, rainy weather but on the continent, where the vintage is at full tilt this month, similar conditions are a matter of real concern.

Bordeaux's vintage prospects, in particular, do not look encouraging a pity, because up until mid-September, when the weather turned nasty, at least one Bordeaux wine man was comparing 1986 with the magnificent '82 vintage.

All the more reason then for us all to take comfort in some good warming winter claret from previous years. The late, small crop 1980 claret vintage was, I think, very unfairly dismissed by claret buffs at the time.

October is also the month to think of wines to partner game dishes. Pheasant and woodcock are just coming into the shops and although I think that burgundy still makes the best marriage with these birds (as it also does with grouse and partridge), I recently tasted a

new vintage of an Australian Shiraz that I feel would make a memorable alternative.

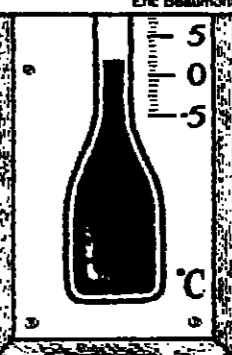
Brown Brothers are possibly Australia's best-known family firm and their '82 Shiraz is easily the best Australian Shiraz currently available. Blessed with a deep vivid purple-black colour plus that classic spicy smoky-leathery bouquet that Australians often refer to as 'sweaty saddles', this '82 Shiraz has a glorious ripe sweet juicy taste with bags of blackberry-like fruit on the palate.

The Victoria Wine Company has the 1980 Clos du Marquis St Julien available for £5.99 a bottle, a not impossible price, considering this wine's deep purple black colour, fine fruity nose and sinewy well-made palate, but perhaps not good value for money when you consider that Majestic Wine Warehouses are selling the '83 vintage for the same price.

order to celebrate Christmas with a bang, but still want to drink wine regularly. Majestic's new wine warehouse at 421 New King's Road, London SW6 has one of the best Côtes du Rhône Villages wines, the '83 vintage from that Rhône master Paul Jaboulet Aîné, for £3.85. This delicious deep purple wine with its raspberry-like palate is an ideal October wine.

Even more of a Côtes du Rhône bargain buy is the wondrous '85 Château du Grand Moulins from the Ryckwaerts. This deep purple wine with its aromatic spicypopery bouquet backed up by a soft blackberry-like palate, priced at just £3.11 from Adams (The Crown, High Street, Southwold, Suffolk), should on no account be missed this month.

The address of Yapp Brothers, mentioned in last week's column, is The Old Brewery, Mere, near Wiltshire.



OCTOBRRI

Jane MacQuitty

EATING OUT

Bigger, brighter and all got up

There is less ceremony these days about the revamped Chez Nico - and more competition in the area



Francis Mosley

When Chez Nico was run by its founder, the eponymous Mr Ladenis, it was among one of the best restaurants in Britain and was the only one, I believe, that attracted clients in the way that the top places do in France.

Nico's temple of gastronomy may have been rebuilt by his former number two, Philip Britain, but it still attracts the same sort of clientele: those who wish to be impressed by the cooking rather than those who wish to impress each other. However, while it used to possess a sort of discreet intimacy and low-key theatricality - you had to ring before entering, the room was dim, you were a party to something near ceremonial - it is now more straightforward, brighter, bigger, ultimately less strange.

It is also less subtle. The practice of not putting salt on the table, so signalling the

primacy of the chef, is forgivable if the chef gets the salting right, but not if he over-compensates and pours too much of the stuff into dressings and sauces.

Philip Britain has had a difficult task as Nico's successor. I am uncertain of how many dishes he has "inherited" and how many are his own; but I am certain that his best dishes, whatever their provenance, are the more complicated ones, elaborate and savoury, such as a breast of duck with a (warm) cake of rillettes made from its leg. The two limbs of the duck were in signal contrast and were the centrepieces of a very arty composition which included chichory, *al dente* turnips, steamed potatoes rolled in breadcrumb (odd), courgette (just one) and a superb red wine sauce.

It was a cut above a dish of noisettes of lamb with rose-

mary sauce; the trouble was that there was no saving gimmick (such as the warm rillettes) to compensate for the very ordinary meat.

Because they were also "got up", the starters were both as good as the duck dish. One was a creamy and strongly flavoured boudin of foie gras with an artichoke heart vinaigrette; the other, a delicious terrine made from sweetbreads and morels and tasting, amazingly, of both.

Both these were accompanied by a jelly made from, I guess, Sauternes and by toasted cakey brioche.

Our one sweet - a jammy, treacly chocolate marquise with orange liqueur - was quite astonishing. The cheese that preceded it was not. The portions - of Roblochon, Roquefort, Brillat Savarin and so on - were massive, as if to compensate for the visible unripeness of the Camembert and the "log" chèvre.

A restaurant of this standard should not let itself down with lazy shopping. When two pay £90, attention to detail should be total; that sum is the sum you will pay if you drink one aperitif and the lovely 1982 Côte de Beaune Villages from Domaine Latour Giraud.

One effect of Chez Nico's success has been the proliferation of restaurants on its doorstep in Queenstown Road. This little cluster has spawned another contingent throughout Battersea and Clapham. Now ambitious beginners are trying their luck with establishments in less obviously promising quarters

of south London where low costs may, of course, be matched by a scarcity of local customers.

I think this is the case at La Petite Auberge de Saint-Savin. It was nearly empty the night I went; it certainly does not deserve to be. The creamy spinach soup and the brick-red fish soup were equally good; there's a novel and surprisingly good dish of salmon coated in grain mustard and cream, and a rich one of veal with garlic, cream and raisins soaked in armagnac. Cheeses are kept in good condition and the sweets include a chocolate cake which is a blue-blooded relation of Black Forest gâteau.

The place is predominantly brown, furnished with simple repro Edwardian chairs and decorated with plates and an *ad hoc* collection of paintings. It does not look bad although it sounds terrible - a tape playing great TV themes chirped repeatedly from somewhere. But the bill, for £46, was about par. The set lunch at £4.50 sounds a tremendous bargain.

Jonathan Meades

Chez Nico, 129 Queenstown Road, London SW8 (01-729 6960). Open Mon-Fri 12.30-2pm; Mon-Sat 7.15-10.45pm.

La Petite Auberge de Saint-Savin, 3 Kennington Lane, London SE11 (01-735 7546). Open Tues-Sat 12.30-2pm and 7-11pm.

CHESS

Annihilation in Leningrad

When Kasparov shot into a 3-point lead with his brilliant 16th game, I expected the world title match to be well and truly over by now. However, as I write I am still in Leningrad.

Karpov, in a dramatic sequence of victories, has annihilated Kasparov's advantage and the eventual match result is now wide open, though Karpov is evidently in the psychological ascendant. My apologies, then, to the many Times readers who have written to me during the two halves of the championship. Once I return to London I will catch up with the correspondence.

Here are my comments to the 19th game which enabled Karpov to equalize:

White: Karpov. Black: Kasparov. Grünfeld Defence.

After game 17 it was high time to abandon the volatile Grünfeld.

The King's Variation. It has a dubious reputation and was not a wise choice.

An excellent move, avoiding exchanges and accentuating the power of White's passed pawn.

This loses. The best defence is 15...Bd7.

With complications.

An admission of defeat, but if 18...Ng3 19 Qb5 wins outright.

If 23...Rd8 25 Bb6 wins.

If 27...Nxg5 28 Rxe8ch Bxe8 29 h4 traps the knight.

The white sealed move, and Kasparov resigned without resuming.

Raymond Keene

BRIDGE

Lessons to learn from the Dutch sponsors

The Netherlands Bridge League has developed a happy knack for finding sponsors.

Today and tomorrow Minihouse, a Dutch computer firm, is sponsoring a marathon "Pairs" contest. But it is a Pairs contest with a difference. Entries are for "teams" of four players who play as pairs in stints. It sounds rather like Le Mans.

Although Minihouse act as the main sponsor, several other firms support the event by sponsoring the individual teams. This concept, of sharing the cake, enables brand exposure relatively cheaply. Naturally the idea is popular with the players. Perhaps the English Bridge Union could try it here.

Before the Marathon there will be a four-cornered contest featuring invited teams from the Netherlands, Canada, Brazil and Indonesia, who will play for the title of "Short Match World Champion". E Kirchoff describes an interesting hand from last year's international contest.

Sweden v Netherlands. Game all. Dealer South.

In the closed room, with the Netherlands North-South, the bidding was:

W N E S

Westra 2- 2- No No

Laufkans 2- 2- No No

The two diamond bid was the multicoloured two diamonds, usually signifying, as here, a weak two bid in a major. Westra's conservative response set the contract on the basis that North had a weak two spades opening.

Westra made nine tricks. In the open room Per Olaf Sundelin, who was not playing any form of weak two bids, had to choose between passing or opening with an aggressive one spade.

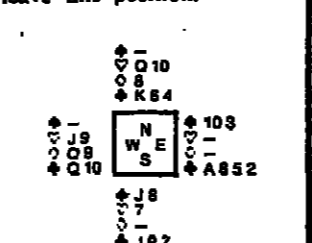
Predictably, he chose the latter.

W N E S

Van Der Vught 2- 2- No No

Geathe 2- 2- No No

Sundelin won the lead with the ♠A, played a spade to the King, and continued with the ♣Q. Muller took his Ace and persisted with another diamond. Sundelin ruffed, cashed the ♣K, crossed to dummy with the ♠A, and ruffed another diamond to leave this position:



When Sundelin cashed the ♠J, West discarded a diamond, while dummy parted with a club. Everything depended on the play of the hearts. Unhappily, rather than flexing to play the Queen, East ruffed and returned a low club, which inevitably led to one down.

Superficially the play of the ♣Q appears to be an unlucky guess. It was not. At that point Sundelin knew that East's original distribution was either 4-3-3 or 4-4-3-2. The play of the Queen would succeed in the former case, the ten in the latter. The a priori expectancy of 4-4-3-2 is more than double that of 4-3-3-2.

With nothing better to guide him, Sundelin should have deferred to the odds.

Jeremy Flint



The Asbach Story

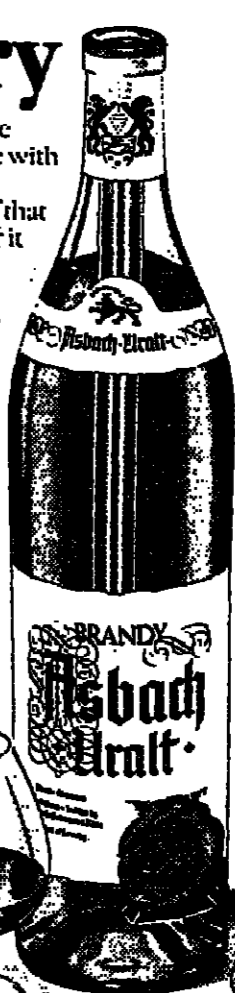
It could easily be argued that Ruedesheim is the gateway to that most beautiful part of the River Rhine with its vineyards and castles.

What is beyond dispute is that it is the home of that most sought after German Brandy - Asbach Uralt. For it was here, around the turn of the century that Hugo Asbach founded his world-famous distillery.

It takes five litres of the finest wines to produce one single bottle of Asbach Uralt. What it also takes is the family skill in distilling, the maturing in Limousin oak barrels; and of course the blending, handed down through generations, to create this soft, mellow, golden brandy. The after dinner brandy that isn't just for after dinner.

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For further information write to: Weinbrennerel, Asbach & Co, 62.20 Ruedesheim am Rhein, Postfach 1130, West Germany.



The Great Brandy

SATURDAY ARTS

A little crop of horrors

TELEVISION

Hollywood's most celebrated wine buff and dead-pan joker was taken on board Omnibus: Hitchcock - Sex, Murder and Mayhem (BBC1).

The title of this second biographical celebration, covering the period of his American glory, echoes that of a lurid movie poster from its subject's heyday.

I had not realized that the most famous sequence from the oeuvre - Janet Leigh's anti-advertisement for shower curtains in Psycho - was story boarded not by the film's director but by the designer Saul Bass.

There was further irony in the disinterment of the diet-food commercial which first brought the bird-like Tippi Hedren to Hitchcock's avuncular notice: perhaps it is true that he was searching for a talismanic Beauty who with a kiss might transubstantiate his all-too-gross flesh.

As one of his collaborators put it: "He didn't want to join the human race."

Martin Cropper

Forty-eight major Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings from the Courtauld Collection will be shown in America at the beginning of next year.

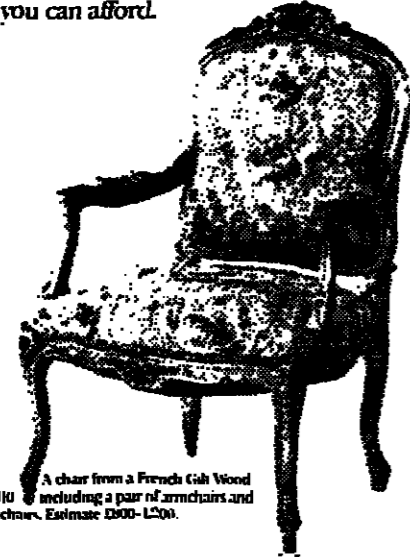
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VIEWING TIMES Sunday 5th October 10 am-4 pm Monday 6th October 9 am-2 pm

SOTHEBY'S CONDUIT St. SALEROOM ESTD. 1986

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Redbrick, Channel 4's new series about Newcastle University, has learnt a few tricks from EastEnders The students of soap

When Stephen Garrett told his friends he was making an observational documentary series about a year in the life of Newcastle University, their faces fell and they offered him their condolences.

"After that, my major concern was to make something absolutely compulsive," he explains. "I decided to use the structure of a soap opera, to choose a small number of people as characters and see the university through their eyes."

The success of the enterprise can be judged when the series, Redbrick, begins on Channel 4 tonight. Central to the opening episode is a sequence covering the appointment of a new lecturer in politics, which reveals the startlingly cruel reality beneath the apparent peace of this grove of academe.

Making an observational documentary in the mid-Eighties is a little like joining a monastery in medieval France - a question of choosing one's heresy. The true cinema-verbatim religion comes over badly on the small screen and a television director is forced between a purist style of Roger Graef's Decision and Police series, and the audience grabbing tactics of Desmond Wilcox's The Marriage.

Stephen Garrett rejected both

these options and decided to create a third. "The grainy, hardline, puritanical cinema-verbatim style of filming I find incredibly pretentious and needlessly dull. It also denies the dishonesty that lies behind all documentary filming, because if you choose that style you have to pretend that you aren't there, you aren't influencing reality and that you are portraying the exact truth."

His decision to portray the institution through the experience of a handful of people was also influenced by Sherwood Anderson's collection of sketches of small-town America, Winesburg, Ohio, which was first published in 1919.

Despite describing Redbrick as a "real life soap opera", Garrett was thoroughly infected with the hair-shirt spirit of cinema-verbatim. Redbrick's opening titles include shots of the film-makers to remind the audience of the technical processes involved, and the closing titles make it clear that the subjects followed were not paid.

Once Garrett had chosen the students and academics who would

be his "characters", he adhered religiously to the principle of seeing the university through their eyes, sometimes in defiance of conventional journalistic values.

"The decision to follow the characters gave us a different kind of integrity which I found a useful discipline. We couldn't be sensational for the sake of being sensational, and I think we arrived at a less partial truth than we would have done if we had dived willy-nilly into any event that glittered."

The major political issues overshadowing the series was the government's squeeze on higher education and in May 1985, shortly after Garrett and his team began their research, the University Grants Committee instructed Newcastle, and every other university, to plan for cuts of more than 10 per cent.

Newcastle thus meant the sacking of the Scandinavian studies department and the sale of the George Brown collection, both of which lay outside Redbrick's terms of reference. Instead, the series shows the charismatic Professor of Medicine, George Alberti, toiling through committees trying to identify the university's most expendable areas.

Professor Alberti, whose colleagues describe him as a "natural star", typifies the attractive individuals selected for the programme. "I think they were looking for people with a little sparkle, something to give the TV, who wouldn't be intimidated," says Colin Simpson, a town-and-country planning student



Nothing like a dame: lecturer Mike Clarke prepares for a piano

whose unsuccessful bid to be elected entertainments officer is a major event in one episode.

The soap-opera model was taken further than casting colourful characters. Although he shot 45 miles of film, Garrett kept sequences down to two-and-a-half minutes and restricted each four-hour programme to three or four story-lines.

Poser Wilfried Josephs (incidentally a graduate of Newcastle's dental school.)

Both the University and the television team are satisfied that Redbrick, the first factual TV series about a provincial university, conveys the reality of life at Newcastle. However, there was one aspect of the institution which gave Stephen Garrett a problem. Demonstrations, discourses, art classes and committees were the easy part.

Celia Brayfield

Honouring sshhh, you know who

Radio 3 is not much into celebrations, and the 40th anniversary of its first broadcast was very much in character. On September 29 1946, Third Programme transmissions opened with a 36-minute feature by Stephen Potter and Joyce Grenfell, How to Listen. On September 29, 1986 that programme was repeated.

I take the point. In a time of universal hype, when champagne has ceased to be a drink and has become the successful sportsman's equivalent of the paint aerosol - to be shaken vigorously and sprayed over anything - then you can see the reasons for avoiding it.

Perhaps I am being unfair.

RADIO

There was more than a touch of sparkle to the Potter/Grenfell programme, and across the gap of 40 years it sounded astonishingly fresh. "Who is going to listen to us?" it enquired apprehensively and, in its search for listeners, came upon people still painfully familiar to the researchers and programme-makers of today: those who simply have the radio on regardless; those who half listen... and then there was the man who could not find anything he wanted to listen to at all.

In defence of his position, this individual called up sound-alikes of all he found detestable, the plays, the spontaneous discussions, the quizzes, the very poetical dramas. It was a quiet but sharply pointed send-up of radio by radio, the like of which you rarely hear these days, even if there is Tom Lubbock's In Our Society (Radio 3), currently taking a low-key but well-aimed swipe at the kind of talks commonly given by philosophers and sociologists.

In general, however, the targets may be more abundant, larger, more grotesque, but they are left alone. Self-mockery is out, and so you can safely infer that insecurity is in. How to Listen has no successors. Instead we have Feedback, grand in its way but basically defensive.

Fritz Hochwälder's The Holy Experiment (Radio 4, Monday, repeating this afternoon) has had some rough handling over the years and this production was the first to be performed in its original form.

It concerns a Jesuit mission in 18th-century Paraguay. By its humane, if highly paternalistic, treatment of the Indians, this mission has become a huge economic and social success and thus a threat not only to the Spanish regime but to the rigid discipline of its order. Under pressure from both, the Father Provincial is forced to confess error, close the mission and resign. Wounded in the ensuing riot, he dies, but on his deathbed he recants, rejecting the obedience that has brought him to accede to an act of gross inhumanity - for the Spaniards will now enslave the Indians.

Alan Dobie was well cast as the Father Provincial, and Peter Jeffrey as the emissary from Spain. They were able to flesh out two of the many characters which in general had been conceived more to serve the interests of a large theme than to develop as recognizable and appealing human beings.

David Wade

CAMBRIDGE FOOTLIGHTS PRESENT ANOTHER FINE MESS THEIR 1986 REVUE

Götterdämmerung Royal Opera House

The intensity that had marked much of Siegfried was not entirely sustained in the last instalment of Welsh National Opera's Ring cycle. It was suddenly more noticeable that some voices were somewhat under-powered, that even Richard Armstrong and his gypsy orchestra could grow tired and a little casual, and that the ideas of producer Göran Järvefelt do not get any more exciting as the great conflagration approaches.

In fact the ending was a feeble anti-climax. There was a flickering glow from something safely offstage; a few puffs of dry ice floating through the air; Hagen trying a Tosca-style leap to oblivion, and finally Gutrune doing a Scarlett O'Hara, silhouetted against the new dawn and doubtless comforting herself with the thought that "tomorrow is another day".

Ring's final lack of confidence

OPERA

Yet this Götterdämmerung (which Radio 3 broadcasts this evening) also contained much that was good.

There was Anne Evans's Brünnhilde: a performance of outstanding intelligence, not only in the dignified and credible way she acted, but also in the manner she nursed her vocal resources, so that Act III found her at her peak.

Some passages lie badly for her - the sustained low register singing needed in the opening scene, for instance. But where she could show her strengths - as in the blazing accusations of Act II - she was magnificent.

Jeffrey Lawton's Siegfried continued to be lusty and likeable. His swansong may

Not have been the sweetest ever heard, but in its great-hearted simplicity (and its abrupt and brutal termination, in which Järvefelt cleverly contrived resonances with Siegmund's death) it was highly affecting.

Lawton literally sang himself into the ground; one felt he had given everything. There was a strong Hagen from John Tranter: a benighted, malignant manipulator, not afraid to exploit coarser-grained, untuneful sounds for dramatic effect. Compared with this monster, Gutrune (Kathryn Harries) and Gunther (Barry Mow) seemed weak-willed but sympathetic characters. Harries gave what turned out to be an especially subtle performance.

The Norms' blind gropings conveyed appropriate nihilism at the outset, and the Rhine daughters' scene also seemed psychologically truthful: both tris blended sweetly. Patricia Payne sang Waltraute with a big expressive range, but considering that her message is nothing less than the ending of the cosmic order she should have got her words out better.

Richard Morrison

Not such a happy marriage of ideas

The Confederacy/A Betrothal Man in the Moon

In a move calculated to please a critic's spine, the Man in the Moon has introduced comfortable individual seats in place of its purgatorial pews. It has also brought in Penny Plain, a new company dedicated to reviving the foundations of English drama.

The Confederacy, a neglected sit-com by Sir John Vanbrugh based on a French original, comprehends the usual cat's-cradle of greed, lechery, impotence and the property laws.

A pair of "money brokers" each fancies the other's wife; the wives are in alliance to maintain their spendthrift ways of life; the servants, against the "Melancholy", as though the Shakespeare, who had already got Hamlet under his belt, must henceforth wear a mourning band on his motley. But there surely need be no external excuse for Malvolio's terminal bitterness any more than, for say, Jacques' Misanthropy: some people are like that.

The present Malvolio (Christopher Ravenscroft) is a

THEATRE

Twelfth Night Haymarket Leicester

This late comedy is frequently dignified by the epithets "Dark" or "Melancholy", as though the Shakespeare, who had already got Hamlet under his belt, must henceforth wear a mourning band on his motley. But there surely need be no external excuse for Malvolio's terminal bitterness any more than, for say, Jacques' Misanthropy: some people are like that.

The present Malvolio (Christopher Ravenscroft) is a



Geraldine James and Ben Kingsley in A Betrothal

posturing mini from his first appearance, which subverts any idea that the piece might be read as his tragedy; when Nick Stringer's porcine Sir Toby Belch pounds up the stairs of the three-star set to deliver the "cakes and ale" blast to the night-capped steward, the latter seems to personify less an adamant puritanism than a reasonable point of view. Belch and his cronies, Christopher Good's teetering Sir Andrew Aguecheek, really are making the most dreadful row.

In the absence of a "Dark" or "Melancholy" interpretation, the coast is clear for Feste to make the piece his own. Sylvester McCoy has never been one to do things by halves; here, his elasticated fool indulges - sometimes over-indulges - in music hall routines which threaten to

blow his fellow players of the stage. He is, however, a dab hand at playing the spoons, as he demonstrates at the start of the second half.

Alexandra Mathie's Viola is pretty thinly drawn, and the entangled love interest with Felicity Dean's clear-voiced Olivia brings to mind precisely what it should not: the astonishing myopia of lace-bean lovers. When will we see a Shakespearean comedy where the heroine dressed as a boy is in fact played by a boy?

Nancy Meckler's production begins badly enough, with George Irving's Orsino delivering his lines as though testing them for size, and memories of her atrocious Macbeth of last season are dispelled only when the misty rule gets underway.

M. C.

CONCERT

Sinfonietta/Atherton Festival Hall

It is exactly as it was last week: the Britten/Tippett Festival is proving, at least as far as the South Bank concerts are concerned, a celebration without a crowd. And it is hard to see why. The Britten in the programme was his Cantata misericordium. Based on the story of the Good Samaritan, this performance gained much from the controlled passion of Philip Langridge as the Samaritan, and from Stephen Roberts's appealingly straightforward baritone. There was strong singing, digging into the words, from the London Sinfonietta Chorus.

For the Sinfonietta themselves, conducted by David Atherton, it was not quite such a happy occasion. The band had been expanded in every department except the violins, whose weedy tone and lack of rhythmic life were a disappointment, as they were again in Tippett's Second Symphony. But here there were compensations: the solos from the trumpeter Graham Ashton, oboist Gareth Hale and clarinetist Michael Collins were full of life, and there was the right green magic in the quartet of horns. Above all, Mr Atherton was effectively in control.

Paul Griffiths

PEKING OPERA in THE MONKEY KING

CENTRAL BALLET OF CHINA

REVIEW

Live Bernstein makes every moment count

CLASSICAL RECORDS Copland Symphony No.3/Quintet for Piano and Strings...

phony with the same composer's cello concerto. Typically, Bernstein tends to over-exaggerate the contrasts in the symphony...

There seems to be something of a vogue for live performances on record. One can only approve, for it is true that studio recordings often sound like sterile documents...



Bernstein: pumping adrenaline

playing. The same passionate intensity more appositely pervades Mischka Maisky's reading of the turbulent cello concerto...

Stephen Pettitt

Sweetly sensed

Salzburg Recital Kathleen Battle/James Levine...

little violet ditty, sweetly-scented but cunningly avoiding any hint of the arch.

Just as the voice has very definite limits so, inevitably, does the expressive range of the recital. Battle has chosen well, though, in her Fauré. Listen, for example, to the finely-drawn arcs with which she shapes his "Roses d'Espagne"...

This is a live recording made at the Salzburg Festival two years ago, yet every cough, breath, and clap of the hands is edited-out. Some may find this a relief, and, in any case, even in the vacuum-packed silence of the compact disc one can sense the liveliness of rapport between Battle and her audience in the final group of four negro spirituals.

Hilary Finch

Low sparks on high art

PAPERBACKS

The Other Half by Kenneth Clark (Hamish Hamilton, £8.95) More Memoirs of an Aesthete by Harold Acton (Hamish Hamilton, £8.95)

There is something faintly similar between the two well-preserved old gentlemen who smile out at us from the covers of these two autobiographies. Both are prosperous and well-preserved, sleek and smartly-suited, protected from the strains and stresses that form character and make people interesting.

Clark and Acton are self-confessed aesthetes - a faintly dirty word. An aesthete is to be distinguished from the true lover of art who responds to those things that also inspire artists - nature, the beauty of women, the omnipresence of God.

Of the two memoirists, Kenneth Clark is the more interesting and sympathetic. He starts the second volume of his autobiography at the beginning of the war, when he was still Head of the National Gallery, helping Myra Hess to launch her famous series of lunchtime concerts...

Expensive Habits by Simon Garfield (Faber, £5.95)

There are certain cautionary tales that are destined to be recounted in perpetuity, their lessons being learnt so rarely by successive generations of youth. And there are surely few areas of human activity that throw up better stuff for deterrent narrative than does the pop music business.

The year I have in mind may be tinged with apocrypha after 20 years in circulation, but the core of it remains fact. This was a story I once heard from a source who, in the circumstances, may sound unlikely, but who is nevertheless plausible. After all, when members of an industry turn into their own sterner critics, we must accord them some credibility.

A group of young musicians, virtually unknown, is travelling to a booking in a worn-out van that breaks down on the way. A saviour comes to their rescue in the form of a passing businessman, who arranges for them and their gear to be taken on to the date, thus redeeming not only their good name but also their fee for the evening.

For this he asks nothing in return save that, supposing, just supposing they should have any songs published in the future, he shall receive a percentage of the royalties. How very equitable it seems, for at this stage of the game they have no track record to speak of and the hit parade appears rather less tangible



Discerning style: Lord Clark, who found pleasure in the contemplation of art

mineshaft in the Welsh mountains. A discerning patron, Clark was also a dedicated committee man, who took on many quango-type appointments, notably as chairman of the ITA when it was first estab-

lished in 1955. Later he achieved unexpected and world-wide fame with his television series, Civilization, in which he appeared as an urbane and fluent guide, showing viewers round the churches and galleries of

Europe to the accompaniment of appropriate music. It is his disarming frankness about his success and also his failings that make his book appealing. For all his erudition he could not avoid being a slightly comic figure

Pop that sold its soul

than the gathering dusk, the corpse of their transport and the gig in hand.

As if you hadn't guessed, the band becomes famous, the Shylock exacts his bond, the tabloids get a good story and the lawyers grow rich.

Simon Garfield does not tell this particular story in his excellent book on the financial chicanery of the pop industry. But then he hardly needs to, for his 269 pages address an identical theme of innocence exploited, but with such data,

such bitter anecdote and such hair-raising chapter and verse that the story of the van and the man acquires by comparison the deceptive simplicity of a parable.

In Garfield's pages there are young Beatles and Stones and Kings and Whos, struggling with ever-mounting fury against the venal ways of the men to whom they too trustingly contracted their music. Ten years later comes the next wave, the Springsteens, the

Pop deals get done, but the creators get disenfranchised

Alan Franks

The great and odd

BOOKS IN BRIEF

Alexander the Great by Robin Lane Fox (Penguin, £5.95)

More than 20 contemporary writers lives of Alexander, and not one of them survives. His myth still stirs us, and his name is part of our language. Robin Lane Fox's biography of the last Homeric hero was published in hardback more than 20 years ago, and is this week Penguin-ed for the first time.

Best SF of the Year edited by Terry Carr (Gollancz, £3.95) A Terran expedition to a planet whose more or less humanoid inhabitants are at the Bronze Age level of civilization. A world where people live on an endless vertical wall, a kind of Flatland set on edge, and what happens when changes invade this vertiginous state. Every one is on permanent holiday in the six fabulous cities of the far tomorrow, but it has its dark side. These selected science fiction short stories show that the genre still thrives, in spite of the increasing popularity of Tolkien fantasy rubbish, with originality and perverted imagination.

Philip Howard

especially when, on his television grand tour, he came to rest at the foot of some great masterpiece.

At the same time there is something very tragic about certain incidents in his life. Overcome by the adulation of fans while on a triumphal visit to America, he flees to the gents and dissolves into a flood of tears.

One of the most extraordinary passages in any autobiography is his account of a mystical experience that came to him in an Italian church and which, he says, left him with a sense of "heavenly joy" for several months. There was no doubt in his mind that he had felt the "finger of God" but he decided to ignore it. It was altogether too much of a bother. It is hard not to be reminded of the rich young man who went away sorrowful - "for he had great possessions".

Certain tell-tale sentences betray the hollowness and the inhumanity of the aesthetic outlook when divorced from ordinary human responses. "It was a pleasure", he writes of the Portuguese town of Coimbra, "to walk out on to the main square with its collection of Rembrandtesque beggars".

But in spite of his heartlessness, Clark remains more simpatico than his fellow-aesthete, Sir Harold Acton. Clark's career was fairly rich in incident and achievement. Acton is a dilettante who has never really done anything of consequence. His life seems to consist of sightseeing and party-going. An over-fastidious and snobbish bachelor, he reminds one of Noel Coward without the jokes. The Lambeth walk is "oulish", the smell of beer detestable.

Richard Ingrams

ARTS DIARY

Pressure points

Harvard University has "leaned on" the Bodley Head to stop publication of a startling new book, The Partnership, on the corrupt art-dealing antics of Lord Duveen and Bernard Berenson.

The book, chronicling the multi-million pound swindle which the scholar Berenson and the entrepreneur Duveen ran between 1912 and 1938, involving the moving of famous works of art from Europe to America, was to have been published this month. But the author, Colin Simpson, who has spent more than 15 years researching the subject, discovered recently that the book had not gone beyond the proof stage.

The dispute is over damning letters from the Berenson archive to which Harvard claims copyright. But Simpson points out that next year an American Professor, Ernest Samuels, is publishing a biography of Berenson which will include extracts from the correspondence with Harvard's blessing. Berenson, he points out, "was Harvard's favourite son. Samuels won't be telling the story as it really was, I will - and that's why I've been leaned on."

Lend a hand

An unusual responsibility is being thrust upon visitors to the Benjamin Britten symposium at Aldeburgh today. Their reaction will decide whether a handful of previously undiscovered songs, composed in the master's early years, will be printed or merely consigned to a musical footnote. If the audience claps loudly enough, I'm told, the songs could be published.

When it comes to finding a home for itself, the Eureka! national children's museum is a choosy little organization. No fewer than six prime sites have been turned down by the trustees, including a dockland site, Sir Terence Conran's Butler's Wharf, the South Bank Society's Hungerford Bridge site, two spots in Regent's Park and another in Waterloo.

Second fiddle

Sir Yehudi Menuhin's friend, Luigi Alberto Bianchi, makes his second London debut at the Royal Festival Hall on October 21, playing Beethoven's violin concerto. Second, because his first was



Bianchi and Menuhin

as a viola player some years ago. But a thief on a scooter stole his Amati viola, and instead of replacing it he came up with a long-bodied Stradivarius violin, on which he is now considered a virtuoso.

Art on HP

A West End gallery, Blond Fine Art, is offering young but impecunious art-lovers the chance to purchase paintings on an instalment plan. For regular instalments of £25, people can buy pictures ranging from £50 to £5,000.

Christopher Wilson

True blues, melodic dreams

JAZZ RECORDS

Wynton Marsalis J Mood (CBS 57088) Art Farmer Portrait (Polydisc COP 029)

Whereas saxophone players usually want to be alone with their rhythm section, trumpeters generally prefer the company of another horn. Perhaps this curious scarcity is what makes trumpet-and-rhythm quartets - think of Chet Baker, Booker Little or Freddie Hubbard (with Herbie Hancock on Empyrean Isles) - sound so fresh.

After recording three albums with his quintet and one with strings, the prodigious Wynton Marsalis now wisely chooses to present his trumpet in the simple setting of piano, bass and drums; the mysteriously titled J Mood permits a gratifyingly uncluttered view of his extraordinary instrumental gifts.

So confident is he in his ability to hold the listener through the sheer quality of his ideas that he dares to follow one ballad, the lulling "Melodique", with another, the even more introspective "After", his understanding of the blues is perfectly illustrated by the fleet "Much Later", in which his succulent open horn is sent bowling along by Jeff Wain's wire brushes, and by the rite track, in which he cunningly maintains a lazy, low-light mood without sacrificing an ounce of intellectual rigour.

ROCK RECORDS

New Model Army The Ghost of Cain (EMI EMC 3516)

Whatever happened to the English rock group? The institution which, more than any other, was responsible in the Sixties for transforming the disparate strands of pop, blues and rock 'n' roll into the genus "rock", and which in the Seventies rejuvenated a flagging industry with one last surge of punk energy, seems of late to have lapsed into a turgid parody of its former glories.

This outstanding album also introduces Marcus Roberts, a pianist whose clean touch and lucid thoughts benefit from a pronounced sense of economy that comes as a welcome change from the brittle verbosity of so many young pianists over-influenced by Keith Jarrett.

For historical perspective on the matter of trumpet quartets, listen to the rerelease of Portrait of Art Farmer, a minor classic from 1958 by a trumpeter whose playing has long represented the more thoughtful and sophisticated face of jazz. The pianist Hank Jones and the drummer Roy Haynes provide discreet, and constructive, support on a carefully chosen repertoire.

For a more provocative perspective on what Marsalis is doing, listen to Tutu, Miles Davis's new LP - but that is an argument we shall leave until next week.

Richard Williams

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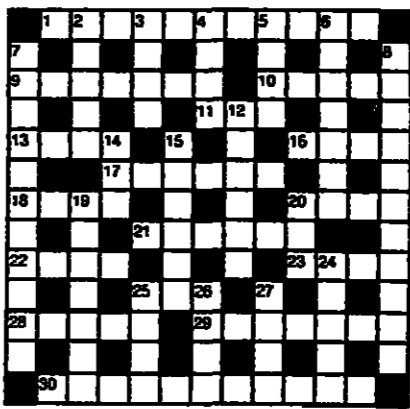
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CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1071

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, October 9, 1986. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Lexington Street, London, W1R 1LX. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, October 11, 1986.

- ACROSS 1 Lady (11) 9 Apart (7) 10 Arbitrary assertion (3,2) 11 Eccentric (3) 13 Skater's twisting jump (4) 16 So be it (4) 17 Curt (6) 18 Arch (4) 20 Make busy (4) 21 Origin (6) 22 Kind (4) 23 Happy (4) 25 Young flower (3) 29 Resist authority (5) 30 Insulation rubber (5,6)



- DOWN 2 Avoid cunningly (5) 3 Commotion (2,2) 4 Realize (4) 5 Eject (4) 6 Extremely bad (7) 7 Zoroaster (11) 8 Oppressed (11) 12 Referee (6) 14 Track circuit (3) 15 Gold-coloured alloy (6) 19 Carnion-eating stork (7) 20 Plead (3)

- SOLUTION TO NO 1070 ACROSS: 1 Affirm 5 Caviar 8 Owl 9 Closed 10 Income 11 Deal 12 Sierling 14 Sparse 17 Surch 19 Infatig 22 Rope 24 Acumen 25 Eyeing 26 Dan 27 Gentry 28 Tonic DOWN: 2 False 3 Insular 4 Modiste 5 Clive 6 Voca 7 Almanac 13 Rot 15 Panacea 16 Sea 17 Segment 18 Equest 20 Remit 21 Dandy 23 Panel

NAME ADDRESS

SOLUTION TO NO 1065 (last Saturday's prize concise) ACROSS: 1 Convulsus 9 Arisan 10 Grebe 11 Due 12 Idea 16 Heat 17 Slinky 18 Gimp 20 Mesh 21 Szanaz 22 Ale 23 Field 28 Cow 28 Heave 29 Allegro 30 Secrecy DOWN: 2 Ours 3 Vast 4 Lend 5 Urge 6 Ukelele 7 Haggography 8 Tetrahedron 12 Unkind 14 Asp 15 Bistrot 19 Welfare 20 Mar 24 Argot 25 Code 26 Wand 27 Clap

New in paperback IRIS MURDOCH SHORTLISTED FOR THE 1985 BOOKER PRIZE THE GOOD APPRENTICE BRILLIANT... TRIUMPHANTLY AND UNSTOPPABLY INVENTIVE - Observer £3.95

THE WEEK AHEAD



OPERA
STORCH SONG: Alan Ople sings the composer-conductor Storch in Richard Strauss's 1924 opera, Intermezzo.



GALLERIES
PUNCH LINES: George du Maurier, one of the finest of Victorian black-and-white artists, was an unsurpassed chronicler of high society in the pages of Punch for 30 years until his death in 1896.



BOOKS
CIVIL SORES: Mario Vargas Llosa, one of the leading contemporary novelists of Latin America, has produced in The Real Life of Alejandro Mayta...



DANCE
BINTLEY FIRST: Lesley Collier and the Royal Ballet open a new season with a quadruple bill which includes the first London performance of David Bintley's Galanteries...



FILMS
SEA DOG: Roman Polanski, who has been away from the cinema since directing his Thomas Hardy adaptation, Tess, seven years ago, makes his come-back with a project he has long cherished.



TELEVISION
BEWITCHED: Patricia Hodge plays a romantic novelist who has an affair and lives to regret it in Fay Weldon's story of witchcraft and revenge, The Life and Loves of a She Devil.

TELEVISION
A SUMMER DOWN UNDER: THE AMERICA'S CUP: First weekly report on the colourful multi-million pound extravaganza to win the ultimate in yacht-racing trophies.

RADIO
AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE: Ibsen's play about a Norwegian doctor (Michael Williams) who rages the townspeople against him.

OPERA
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: Alce on Fri at 7pm with a revival of John Copley's production, Mearnsville Mikado plays on Tues and Thurs at 7.30pm...

GALLERIES OPENINGS
IDENTITY/DESIRE: Contemporary artists' views of the human form. Collins Gallery, Richmond Street, Glasgow (041 552 4400). From Tues.

TELEVISION
THE GOOD FATHER (15): Middle-class London life adroitly put under the microscope; with Anthony Hopkins and Jim Broadbent, directed by Mike Newell.

BOOKINGS FIRST CHANCE
SOUTH BANK: General booking opens Tues for November concerts, including first London appearance by Wexford Festival Opera in Rossini's Tancredi...

TELEVISION
DALLAS: The most heralded shower scene since Alfred Hitchcock's Psycho as the figure of Patrick Duffy returns to the ratings-slinging Ewing family show.

RADIO
WOMAN IN MIND: Aycobour's latest foray into middle-class frustration. Julia McKenzie shines as the touched fantasist of the title.

OPERA
OPERA NORTH: Opens its new season with a new production of the first part of Berlioz's Les Troyens, The Capture of Troy, sung in English.

GALLERIES OPENINGS
CASTLEFIELD: Tribute to the Scottish-Irish painter, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Belford Road, Edinburgh (031 556 8921). From Fri.

TELEVISION
THE HOUSEMARTINS: Happy hours on the road for Lily's politicized punk answer to Freddie and the Dreamers.

BOOKINGS FIRST CHANCE
RAPE OF LUCRETIA: Now booking, English National Opera production of British opera with Richard Van Allan and Jean Rigby, directed by Graham Vick.

JAZZ
JIGGS WHIGHAM: A former Kenton sideman, this US trombonist is partnered by the saxophones of Tommy Whitton (tonight) and Peter King (tomorrow).

FILMS ON TV
HOW TO MURDER YOUR WIFE (1964): Jack Lemmon as a caroonist with an unwanted spouse. BBC2, tomorrow, 3-4.55pm.

CONCERTS
LITTON/LSO: Andrew Litton conducts the London Symphony Orchestra in Rachmaninov's Symphony No 2.

FILMS OPENINGS
OTHER HALVES (15): Lisa Harrow as the lady who crashes through barriers of age, class and colour and falls for a 16-year-old black.

TELEVISION
TOP GUN (15): Tom Cruise as a cocky naval pilot undergoing elite training. Noisy, glossy and absurd, and one of the year's biggest American successes.

BOOKINGS FIRST CHANCE
WHIRLIGIG THEATRE: Booking open for David Wood's The Old Man of Lochnagar, a musical play based on book by the Prince of Wales for his two younger brothers.

JAZZ
DICK MORRISSEY: Vestly experienced (and by jazz people, rather underrated) tenor saxophonist now realises his sights on straightforward hard bop, leading his quartet on a national tour.

CONCERTS
SCOTTISH BALLET: Peter Darrell's production of Giselle is given at Bath today and Liverpool Tues-Oct 11.

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THEATRE IN PREVIEW
LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES: Christopher Hampton's adaptation of the 18th century novel by Laclos transfers to the West End.

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For ticket availability, performance and opening times, telephone the numbers listed. Bookings: Anne Whitehouse; Concerts: Max Harrison; Dance: John Percival; Films: Geoff Brown; Films on TV: Peter Waymark; Galleries: Sarah Jane Checkland; Jazz: Richard Williams; Opera: Hilary Finch; Radio: Peter Waymark; Rock: David Sinclair; Television: Bob Williams; Theatre: Tony Patrick and Martin Cropper



Funny man on a razor's edge: brushing off the circus sawdust, Michael Crawford practises paths for the Paris sewers

The phantom takes fright

Michael Crawford, who opens this week in Andrew Lloyd Webber's 22m musical The Phantom of the Opera, was once voted the funniest man on television, but there will not be many laughs in his latest venture. When the make-up girl has finished with him there will not be much of Michael Crawford, either, at least to the naked eye.

anger and fear and terror through it. Everything must start from inside you. He finds that the one-eyed disguise affects his balance, and what with a cloak and a hood he reckons he is going to be hard pressed to hear the orchestra or see the conductor, not the ideal conditions in which to play the lead in a musical. "I suppose," he says, "I may have to end up carrying my own Walkman."

Peter Waymark

Troubles of Cable Street recalled

By David Cross

London's East Enders will today commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Cable Street...



The police with truncheons drawn clear the way for the fascist officer in the car.



George Shaw (left) now aged 71, who remembers fleeing the Cable Street troubles; Mosley salutes his troops.



Thatcher refuses to move on sanctions

Continued from page 1

veto was the "final blow" against his policy of "constructive engagement". The multi-racial United Democratic Front (UDF), the legal shadow of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC), also welcomed the Senate decision...

Women win in versatility

The annual Labour Party conference ended yesterday with the traditional singing of 'The Red Flag'. The party's electoral strategists hoped that it had also ended with what, in future, would become the equally traditional flagging of the red singers.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,168

Solution to Puzzle No 17,162

Crossword puzzle grid with letters filled in for puzzle No 17,162.

A prize of The Times Atlas of World History will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mr F. E. Hermes, Fairview Close, Cheltenham, Glos; Dr Conrad Murphy, Crosby Row, London SE1; Mr J. Waller, Coed-y-Fronallt, Dolgellau, Gwynedd.

Name: _____ Address: _____

A 13x13 crossword puzzle grid with some numbers and letters pre-filled.

- ACROSS 1 Capacity of old vessel reduced by one quarter (6).

Today's events

Royal engagements The Duchess of Gloucester, Commandant-in-Chief, St John Ambulance Brigade in Wales, attends a service of re-dedication in St Woolos Cathedral, Lychgate, 2.55, afterwards visits Westfield Upper School, Newport, 4.30...

New Exhibitions The art and craft of etching: 300 years of etching; Pallant House Gallery, Tues to Sat 10 to 5.30 (ends Oct 18).

Last chance to see Allison Vance: Interiors; Naomi McBride: paint effects; Omer Gallie: 23 Veldington Park, Belfast; 11 to 7.

Georges Braque: illustrations to poems by Guillaume Apollinaire; Sue Arrowsmith: John of the Night; Ikon Gallery, 58-72 Regent St, Birmingham; 10 to 6.

Canterbury Festival: Concert by the Canterbury Choral Society; Canterbury Cathedral, 7.30. Three Choirs Concert: Concert by the choirs of Ripon and Wakefield Cathedrals and Leeds Parish Church; Ripon Cathedral, 7.

General Poetry's Choice: an evening of poetry with Peter Porter; Wingfield College, Eye, Suffolk, 8.

The poetry festival: Poetry recital by Stephen Spender and Lisa S. Aubin de Tanan; Thoresby College, King's Lynn, 8.

Tomorrow Lionel Edwards RI RCA 1878-1966; Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery, New Walk; Mon to Thurs and Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5.30 (ends Nov 2).

Last chance to see Storm, stream and sea: oil painting with watercolours; Smith Art Gallery and Museum, Dumbarton Rd, Stirling; 2 to 5.

Music Concert by the Canterbury Choral Society; Canterbury Cathedral, 7.30. Recital by the Exon Singers and Andrew Lumden (organ); The Chapel of St Cross, Winchester, 7.30.

General 100 Years of Music 1830-1930: lecture/recital by Richard Deering; Brunel Park School, Military Rd, Gosport, 3.

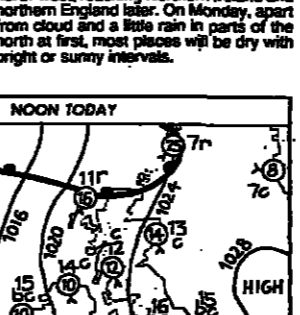
The pound

Table listing exchange rates for various countries: Australia \$, Austria Sch, Belgium Fr, Canada \$, Denmark Kr, etc.

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC.

Weather forecast

The anticyclone over the North Sea will persist. A weak frontal trough will affect northern areas.



High Tides

Table of tide times for various locations: London Bridge, Avonmouth, Belfast, etc.

Around Britain

Table showing weather conditions and sun/precipitation forecasts for various parts of the UK: East Coast, South Coast, etc.

Abroad

Table showing weather conditions for various European cities: Alcala, Andora, Athens, etc.

Lighting-up time

Table showing daylight hours for various locations: London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, etc.

OTM Newspapers Limited

OTM Newspapers Limited, 15 Victoria Street, London W1, is now offering...

Ranks Ho acquisition cost £11

Ranks Ho acquisition cost £11. The company has announced...

Portfolio Gold

For readers who may have missed a copy of The Times this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes...

Anniversaries

Table listing birth dates and anniversaries: TODAY Births: Giambattista Piranesi, engraver; Jean-Francois Millet, painter; etc.

Roads

Wales and West: M6: Eastbound carriageway closed between junctions 40 and 42...

Large advertisement on the right side of the page, partially cut off. Includes text like 'Rise in...', 'US jobs as m...', and 'Ranks Ho acquisition cost £11'. There are also some small graphics and logos.

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

Table with stock market data including FT 30 Share, FT-SE 100, Bargains, USM (Datastream), THE POUND, US Dollar, W German Mark, and Trade-weighted.

50% rise in Scottish TV profits

Scottish Television yesterday announced pre-tax profits in the half year to June 30 of £2.1 million, a rise of 50 per cent.

Spurs lose

Tottenham Hotspur, the only football club listed on the Stock Exchange, passed its final dividend for the year ending May 31 after making a pre-tax loss of £730,000.

£8m offer

Kennedy Brookes is to make an agreed bid for Crusts, the health food restaurant.

Bond buys

Mr Alan Bond's family company, Dailhoid Investments, is paying \$16 million (£11.1 million) for the Coliseum gold project in San Bernardino County, California.

Reuters deal

A conditional agreement has been signed for Reuters to make an offer to acquire the equity of Finsbury, a private company operating databases used by financial-related markets.

Homes deal

Nationwide Leisure, the sports goods retailer and caravan park operator is to buy a group of nursing and residential homes for the elderly in a deal worth £4.3 million in cash.

Table with market data including Money Markets, Wall Street, Co News, Foreign Exchange, Commodities, USM Prices, and Stock Market.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

Table with stock market data including New York, Tokyo, Nikkei Dow, Hong Kong, Hang Seng, Amsterdam Gen, Sydney: AO, Frankfurt, Commerzbank, Brussels, General, Paris: CAC, Zurich, and SKA General.

INTEREST RATES

Table with interest rates including London, Bank Base, 3-month interbank, 3-month eligible bills, Prime Rate, Federal Funds, and 30-year bonds.

CURRENCIES

Table with currency data including London, New York, and various exchange rates.

Rise in base rate resisted as slide in pound goes on

The pound continued to retreat against most currencies yesterday as effective central bank intervention failed to materialize and fears of a substantial rise in base rates persisted.

US jobless up to 7 per cent as manufacturing suffers

Unemployment in the United States rose unexpectedly to 7 per cent in September from 6.8 per cent in August, revealing considerable weaknesses in the manufacturing sector.

Ranks Hovis acquisitions cost £11.7m

Northern Foods, the diversified food group, is to sell two subsidiaries which make ingredients for the catering and baking industries to Ranks Hovis McDougall for £11.7 million in cash.

Reagan gains clear run at Federal Reserve

The surprise resignation of Mr Emmett Rice, a governor of the US Federal Reserve Board and a strong supporter of Mr Paul Volcker, the chairman, has given President Reagan a rare opportunity to put a strong supply-side stamp on the US central bank.

Unhappy THF face inquiry

It is thought that the OFT also wished the Monopolies Commission to consider the addition of five Welcome Break motorway service areas to the 14 currently operated by THF.



Maxwell raises McCorquodale stake to 7.5%

Mr Robert Maxwell, publisher of the Daily Mirror, yesterday kept the pot boiling on the McCorquodale bid drama by announcing he had raised his stake in McCorquodale from 5.9 per cent to 7.5 per cent.

Fastest can in the West

Coca-Cola yesterday unveiled a drink canning operation, costing more than £6 million, at its Milton Keynes plant.

IMF chief in rates warning

Washington (AP-DJ) - A warning against "over-reliance on exchange rate adjustments" to achieve a better balance in the current account positions of leading industrial countries was given yesterday by Jacques de Larosiere, managing director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

£1m injection may rescue Blacks Leisure

Blacks Leisure Group, the troubled camping equipment retail chain, may be saved from receivership by the intervention of a consortium of investors including Mr Alan Thornton, former managing director of Lotus Shoes.

FRAMLINGTON GROWTH RATES

The average annual compound rate of growth in the price of units (on an offer-to-bid basis) of each of our capital growth funds between launch and 1st October 1986 was as follows:

Table with Framlington Growth Rates including Fund, Launched, and Growth percentages.

Every one of these Framlington funds has outperformed the FT All-Share Index, the Dow-Jones Industrial Average and the Standard and Poors Composite Index.

Each fund is fully described in the Framlington Unit Trust Guide 1986. For a free copy, send us this coupon:

Form for requesting a free copy of the Framlington Unit Trust Guide 1986, including fields for Name and Address.

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US confusion over Pretoria gold deals

Leading American securities firms which make markets in South African gold shares suspended some of their dealings yesterday as their corporate lawyers pored over the United States sanctions bill to see whether it prohibited share purchases.

FRAMLINGTON

GROWTH RATES

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Exco shares rise on talk of bid by Tan Sri Khoo

By Michael Clark

Shares of Exco International, the money broker and financial services group, rose 5p to 228p in after hours trading yesterday, amid speculation that the powerful Canadian Belzberg family had raised their holding in the company to above 10 per cent.

Dealers claim that this could clear the way for Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat, the Malaysian businessman, to launch a full bid for Exco. Tan Sri Khoo is Exco's biggest shareholder, with 67.85 million shares (28.97 per cent) and he already has a seat on the board.

Previously, he had given an undertaking to the Exco board that he would not increase his stake in the company — or bid — unless someone else built up a holding of more than 10 per cent.

During the summer, the Belzberg family emerged as big buyers of Exco and,

what will happen to interest rates. Prices continued to drift on lack of interest, with dealers reporting only minimal selling pressure as the first week of the account drew to a close. The FT index of 30 shares managed to close above its worst levels of the day, 12.0 points lower at 1,234.0. The broader-based FT-SE 100 lost 12.3 at 1,560.8.

All eyes are now focused on next week's money supply figures which are expected to decide whether interest rates will remain unchanged or climb. But most economists now appear convinced that a rise of at least 1 percentage point in bank base rates to 11 per cent is inevitable.

This was underlined by another shaky performance by sterling in the foreign exchange market where the Bank of England is thought to have once again lent its support.

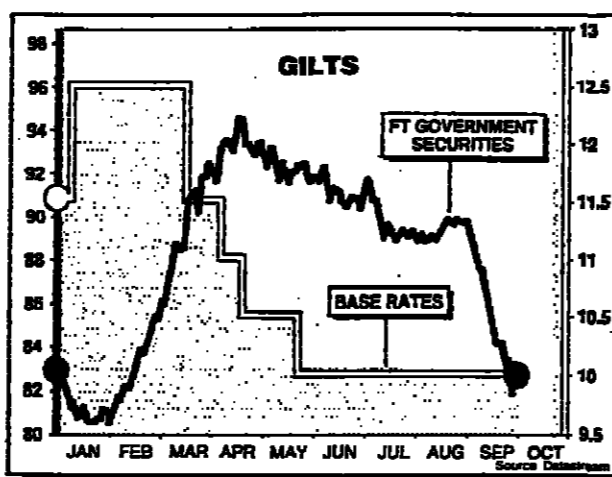
Dealers are expected to lose ground against the German mark, but made up some ground against a weak dollar rising, by about three-quarters of a cent to 1.4410 following the latest US unemployment figures. Its trade-weighted index rose 0.1 to 68.2 after dropping to a fresh low earlier in the day.

Gilt-edged securities were composed after this week's sharp falls. Rises of up to 6p were recorded at the longer end.

Boots firmed 3p to 228p on revived bid hopes and heavy call option business. There was talk that Hanson Trust had been increasing its holding in the company and both Anglo-Siam and the specialist printer, which is currently the target of an unwanted, £145 million bid from rival Norton Opax. He has bought \$50 million shares, lifting his total holding in McCorquodale to 3.85 million shares, or 7.5 per cent.

Mr Maxwell's interest in McCorquodale has been heightened following recent talk that the Exel Group, the news agency and publisher of financial information, was thinking of becoming a white knight.

Mr Maxwell is considered a possible bidder for Exel and has built up a 25 per cent holding in the company. But



Group's restaurant and hotel chain had been referred to the Monopolies Commission. THF had already agreed with Hanson Trust on a price of £192 million for the chain of 61 Happy Eater restaurants, 30 Anchor Hotels, five Welcome Break motorway service stations and several Imperial Inns which Hanson inherited after its £2.1 billion takeover of the Imperial Group earlier this year.

THF beat off fierce competition from Sears Holdings, Ladbrokes, Whitbread and Scotch & Newcastle to clinch the deal. It was also the group's first major acquisition since Mr Rocco Forte was appointed chief executive by his father in March, 1983.

Hanson Trust also reacted badly to the news, sliding 3p to 184p.

Mr Robert Maxwell, owner of the *Daily Mirror*, has again been buying more shares in McCorquodale, the specialist printer, which is currently the target of an unwanted, £145 million bid from rival Norton Opax. He has bought \$50 million shares, lifting his total holding in McCorquodale to 3.85 million shares, or 7.5 per cent.

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he is prevented by the Take-over Panel from making a full bid until April next year. Any merger between Exel and McCorquodale would dilute his holding and thwart any planned bid. Mr Maxwell paid a lot more for his stake in McCorquodale than the 266p price and several Imperial Inns which Hanson inherited after its £2.1 billion takeover of the Imperial Group earlier this year.

Last night there was growing speculation that Exel, down 2p at 343p, had also been buying McCorquodale shares in the market as a prelude to making a full bid next week. Norton Opax was unchanged at 136p.

Stake-building was also good for a 1p rise to 121p in Horizon Travel, the package tour operator. Mr Ron Brierley, the New Zealand business man, has again been topping up his holding through his Hong Kong-based IEP Securities, a subsidiary of International Equity. He now speaks for 7.8 million shares, 15.64 per cent of the equity.

The ambitious Mr Brierley is currently bidding £258 million for Ocean Transport and Trading — down 1p at 232p — and has also built up a holding of about 15 per cent in Ultramar, the oil exploration group, 2p lower at 161p.

Now Mr Brierley has bought 937,500 shares (6.4 per cent) in Manders, the industrial paints supplier. Manders responded with a jump of 1p to 305p.

Last year, he rescued Totez Kensley & Millhouse, which

then paid £110 million for the Kenning Motor Group. But, within the past few weeks, he has reduced his holding in Imperial Continental Gas, the subject of intense bid speculation. Shares of IC Gas slipped 2p to 491p yesterday in spite of suggestions that a bid of 525p is on the way.

Crusts, the USM-quoted restaurant chain, rose 5p to 105p after an agreed bid of £8 million from Kennedy Brookes, the Mario & Franco and Wheeler restaurant and hotel group.

Kennedy Brookes is offering six of its shares for every 11 Crusts. The deal values Crusts at 114p a share. Kennedy Brookes, unchanged at 210p, has already received acceptances from the board of Crusts for 4.11 million shares, or 62.29 per cent of the total.

News of the deal failed to upset some of the regional breweries which had been

COMMENT Grand Metropolitan takes to the bunker

Grand Metropolitan is in a situation that cannot go unresolved. The predators have been gathering for some while. We know that Mr Charles Knapp and a group of American backers have been dabbling speculatively in Grand Met shares with one hand and offering a £900 million deal to buy Grand Met's prestigious Intercontinental Hotels chain with the other.

The multi-millionaire Mr Alan Bond has been quietly extending feelers behind the scenes about widening his Australian drinks interests further in Britain. Were Grand Met amenable to the idea he would be delighted to do a deal. Were it not, he might take a share of the spoils along with others in a break-up exercise.

More intriguingly, those who claim to know these things say that a bank as blue-blooded as Schroders is believed to be talking to a number of parties. It may at this stage be a little early to describe it as a consortium, but time will no doubt tell.

Not surprisingly, the City feels it can detect a bunker atmosphere developing at Grand Met HQ. The announcement that a new chief executive is to be appointed, splitting the roles now played by the chairman, Sir Stanley Grinstead, merely confirms this view, as does the suggestion that the ace adman and takeover

specialist Tim Bell is being recruited to the team.

The difficulty faced by Sir Stanley and his team is that there is a yawning gap between the market worth of Grand Met and the values of the companies inside the group.

The wines and spirits division, reckoned even by its competitors to be directed with mastery skill, is alone worth perhaps £1.7 billion, or getting on for half the current capitalization of the whole group.

After the Elders bid for Courage, Watney Mann and Truman, the brewing operations, plus more than 6,000 public houses, must be worth £1.4 billion. Intercontinental Hotels is a unique property. If Mr Knapp will offer £900 million for the privilege of getting round the table, a sale price of over £1 billion should be comfortably attainable.

Throwing in some excellent US operations, which are producing low returns as yet but have great growth potential, it is not over-egging the pudding to reach a value of £5.8 billion for the Grand Met treasure chest. Netting off debt would suggest a break-up value of 580p per share. The yawning gap which exists between that and the share price of 421p is rather too uncomfortable for most major shareholders to stomach.

Analysts have already calculated that the break-up value of this leisure, brewing and hotel group, which includes Watney Mann and Truman, is worth more than its present stock market value of £3.5 billion.

There is a paradox in this. In the run-up to Big Bang, nowhere is the concept of paying a price to become a player in the game more clearly understood than in the City. Millions have changed hands in the corporate jockeying for favourable positions on October 27. But as to profit, it is widely recognized as becoming a scarce commodity for a year or two.

There was something akin to a shareholders' revolt when Boots adopted a similar approach in its strategic ambition to become a significant player in the huge United States drugs market. That market represents 28 per cent of the world's pharmaceutical sales, compared with Britain's 3 per cent. Moreover, it is one free from government interfer-

ence in pricing and, in terms of profit, is even more important than the figures suggest.

Boots has some potentially money-spinning drugs coming through the long development and licensing process and had to decide on the best way to maximize the benefits to the company. The anti-arthritis treatment, Brufen, became the best selling drug in the US.

The new drugs have great potential too. Flosequan is due to make an entry in three or four years' time on the US market for heart and hypertensive drugs, which is worth more than \$2 billion. This and two or three more promising products will be distributed through the new US acquisition, Flint, which caused the furore in the City. At \$555 million, it was not cheap and will give rise to some modest earnings dilution this year. But without a US sales force and distribution network, Boots would again be forced to part with the bulk of the benefits to others.

Success in pharmaceuticals is elusive but the pay-offs are massive. Boots' critics should remember that Glaxo went through a spell of disenchantment in the City during the late 1970s when its shares were the equivalent of 37p. Now they are over £9. Perhaps Boots shares, at 228p, are good long-term value too.

Jam today, Boots tomorrow

Waiting for jam tomorrow is fine, but hoping for caviar maybe the day after can bring unacceptable risk. Occasionally, however, the City delivers unusually severe verdicts on directors who are prudently developing corporate strategies. None has been treated more harshly than Boots for attempting a major acquisition which could transform its prospects in as little as five years. Like Grand Met, Boots management finds itself at bay before an impatient pack of City hounds demanding instant results — or dismemberment.

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News this week that the acquisitive Mr David Abell's Suter had more than doubled its holding to 24 per cent in Thermax, the toughened glass manufacturer, has certainly created a few ripples among speculators. There is now talk that a bid of 170p a share is on the way, valuing the USM-quoted group at nearly £20 million. Thermax was unchanged at 136p.

through their own company, First City Financial Corporation, amassed a stake of 8.9 per cent. Mr Bill Matthews, the managing director of Exco, has been quoted as saying that the Belzberg family regarded their holding as an investment.

Exco is currently valued at £533 million — well within the financial grasp of someone like Tan Sri Khoo. Earlier this year, he emerged as one of a group of overseas business men who helped Standard Chartered to fight off an unwanted, £1.3 billion bid from Lloyds Bank. He still owns a 5 per cent stake in Standard and has since joined the board.

The rest of the equity market remained in the doldrums, still waiting to see

Group's restaurant and hotel chain had been referred to the Monopolies Commission. THF had already agreed with Hanson Trust on a price of £192 million for the chain of 61 Happy Eater restaurants, 30 Anchor Hotels, five Welcome Break motorway service stations and several Imperial Inns which Hanson inherited after its £2.1 billion takeover of the Imperial Group earlier this year.

Last night there was growing speculation that Exel, down 2p at 343p, had also been buying McCorquodale shares in the market as a prelude to making a full bid next week. Norton Opax was unchanged at 136p.

Stake-building was also good for a 1p rise to 121p in Horizon Travel, the package tour operator. Mr Ron Brierley, the New Zealand business man, has again been topping up his holding through his Hong Kong-based IEP Securities, a subsidiary of International Equity. He now speaks for 7.8 million shares, 15.64 per cent of the equity.

The ambitious Mr Brierley is currently bidding £258 million for Ocean Transport and Trading — down 1p at 232p — and has also built up a holding of about 15 per cent in Ultramar, the oil exploration group, 2p lower at 161p.

Now Mr Brierley has bought 937,500 shares (6.4 per cent) in Manders, the industrial paints supplier. Manders responded with a jump of 1p to 305p.

Last year, he rescued Totez Kensley & Millhouse, which

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

| First Dealings | Last Dealings | Last Declaration | For Settlement |
|----------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| Jan 2 | Oct 27 | Jan 2 | Jan 19 |
| Oct 20 | Oct 31 | Jan 2 | Feb 2 |

Call options were taken at 370000 Shares, Newport, Gwent, Conroy Pats, Control Securities, Dublin, Amsted Consumer Electronics, Bestwood, Brunswick, Johnson, Pitt Brown, Common Bacs, Britannia Secs, Fossil Intl, Grand Met, Tanco, Bristol Oil & Minerals, Berkeley & Hip, H&M Investments, Akco Investments, Mariketh Investments, Barrie Investments, Peak Holdings, Cannon Engineering, Lucas, Marshall Loney, Put & Call, Conroy Pats, Bestwood, Britannia Secs, Lee Intl.

APPOINTMENTS

Donald Duffy, Mr William Caster and Mr Langdon Stevenson become directors.

Rugby Portland Cement: Mr C P Jackson joins the board.

IT Institute at Cranfield: Dr Allan J Fox becomes managing director.

Melrose Cooper: Mr Heath Mason joins the board.

Jardine Glanville: Mr David Hill becomes a director and chairman of its energy resources division.

Streets Financial Marketing: Mr Jonathan Mitchell is made a director.

Bain Dawes: Mr Stephen Henderson becomes a director. Reinsurance Worldwide Division.

American Express Bank: Mr Michael C L James is elected senior vice-president and regional treasurer.

Vain Pollen: Miss Caroline Czell becomes an associate director.

RECENT ISSUES

| Series | Oct | Jan | Apr | Jul | Oct | Jan | Apr | Jul | Oct | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Allied Lyons (305) | 300 | 12 | 23 | 37 | 7 | 15 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| BBB Design (87p) | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 |
| Beevevor (145p) | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 |
| Broad St (43p) | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Chalson Man (125p) | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 |
| Craghton Labs (130p) | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 |
| Euro Home (150p) | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 |
| Eye Construction (105p) | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 |
| Fletcher Dennis (70p) | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 |
| Great Southern (135p) | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 |
| Guthrie Corp (180p) | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 |
| Harrison (150p) | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 |

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

| Series | Oct | Jan | Apr | Jul | Oct | Jan | Apr | Jul | Oct | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Allied Lyons (305) | 300 | 12 | 23 | 37 | 7 | 15 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| BBB Design (87p) | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 |
| Beevevor (145p) | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 |
| Broad St (43p) | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Chalson Man (125p) | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 | 128 |
| Craghton Labs (130p) | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 |
| Euro Home (150p) | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 |
| Eye Construction (105p) | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 105 |
| Fletcher Dennis (70p) | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 88 |
| Great Southern (135p) | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 |
| Guthrie Corp (180p) | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 | 185 |
| Harrison (150p) | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 | 155 |

MONEY MARKET AND GOLD

| Series | Oct | Jan | Apr | Jul | Oct | Jan | Apr | Jul | Oct | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Jaguar (325p) | 300 | 58 | 77 | 90 | 18 | 23 | 29 | 29 | 29 | 29 |
| Thom EMI (450p) | 480 | 50 | 62 | 75 | 4 | 10 | 18 | 28 | 28 | 28 |
| Tecco (388p) | 330 | 75 | 101 | 111 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Brit Aero (405p) | 420 | 57 | 75 | 87 | 3 | 12 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 |
| Brit Inds (440p) | 380 | 60 | 75 | 82 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Burdays (462p) | 480 | 27 | 40 | 60 | 13 | 18 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 |
| Brit Telecom (178p) | 180 | 8 | 17 | 24 | 9 | 15 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| Courtesy Schwepps (172p) | 180 | 8 | 14 | 17 | 12 | 13 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Guinness (371p) | 380 | 26 | 37 | 48 | 8 | 17 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 |
| Imperial Gr (378p) | 380 | 80 | 101 | 111 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Ladbroke (341p) | 330 | 22 | 35 | 43 | 3 | 10 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| LAGAO (118p) | 110 | 15 | 20 | 26 | 6 | 12 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| Midland Bank (534p) | 500 | 82 | 70 | 80 | 7 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| P & O (501p) | 480 | 47 | 67 | 83 | 3 | 7 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Racal (148p) | 180 | 75 | 16 | 22 | 17 | 20 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 22 |
| RTZ (548p) | 550 | 112 | 122 | 122 | 3 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Vaal Reefs (84p) | 70 | 16% | 20 | 24% | 2% | 5% | 7% | 7% | 7% | 7% |

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares continue to drift

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on Monday. Dealings end next Friday. Contango day October 13. Settlement day October 20. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Portfolio Gold - DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000 - WEEKLY DIVIDEND £24,000 - Claims required for +42 points - Claims required for +134 points - Claimants should ring 0254-53272

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Gain or Loss. Lists various companies like Murray Elect, Davison Pearre, Mackay (High), etc.

Weekly Dividend table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUNDAY. Includes a note: 'Please be sure to take account of any minus signs'.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, %.

SHORTS (Under Five Years) table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

UNDATED table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

INDEX-LINKED table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

BREWERIES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

FINANCE AND LAND table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

FOODS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

CINEMAS AND TV table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

DRAPERY AND STORES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

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Ex dividend - Ex All to Forecast dividend & interim payment passed - Price at suspension of Dividend and yield exclude a special payment if Pre-merger figures - Forecast earnings or Ex other 1 Ex rights or Ex stop or share note 1 To-tine - No application date.

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DEALING IN UNITS: Units may normally be bought or sold on any working day. The buying and selling prices of units and the estimated gross yield are published daily in the Financial Times. A contract note will normally be sent within 3 working days of an order and certificates for units bought will be sent within 28 working days of settlement.

INVESTMENT POWERS: The Managers may, within the limits laid down by the Department of Trade and Industry, invest in traded options and secondary markets to hedge against currency fluctuations and to borrow for the account of the fund.

CHARGES: Until 15th April 1987 a 2% initial charge is included in the offer price of units. The annual charge is 1% plus VAT of the unit's net asset value which is deducted from the income of CSIF. The Trust Deed permits the Managers to increase the annual fee to the maximum 1.5% plus VAT subject to 3 months notice.

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CS FUND MANAGERS LIMITED THE INDIVIDUAL INVESTMENT GROUP

Edited by Peter Gartland

FAMILY MONEY/1

Six billion in gas pipeline

PRIVATIZATION

The pattern of discounts and bonuses is familiar, but the size of the British Gas flotation distinguishes it from all the rest. MARTIN BAKER looks at what promises to be the biggest boost yet to the Government's coffers

British Gas is coming up for sale, digital flame and all. The company's determined publicity campaign waged through the newspapers, a mail shot of 16 million customers, the hundreds of high street branches, and the already familiar crypto-rock video commercials, will all bring the attractions of an ambitious offer to our notice.

It is the company's stated intention to make 98 per cent of the population aware of the sale at the end of November.

"It is likely to be the largest share offer of all time," says Anthony Alt, one of the bankers behind the privatization.

The figures are virtually meaningless to most people. The first half of British Telecom raised £3.9 billion in 1984, the TSB, from which the Government receives no money, has pulled in more than £1.25 billion, but British Gas will almost certainly bring in more than both put together.

The precise amount of money the Government hopes to raise is not yet known, but conservative estimates are around the £6 billion mark.

For the small investor the size of the company being sold is probably about as important as how many times investors would stretch around the world if laid end to end. More important questions must be whether investors should apply at all, how likely they are to receive any shares, and what, if anything, needs to be done between now and the end of November.

Should you apply? The prospects for British Gas are not quite as wonderful as they seemed a year ago. At that time oil, which is more or less the commodity that British Gas is selling to us, was trading at more than \$25 per barrel. Since then the oil price has collapsed and recovered slightly to today's levels of around \$15 per barrel. But British Gas, of course, has a monopoly, which hardly promotes a cost-cutting war.

As the oil price does not help, the state of the Stock Market is doubly important. All the talk of bull (rising) and bear (falling) markets actually does have some significance for the small investor.



Flame of hope: the commercials are expected to stimulate investment on the big scale

The big investors, the pension funds and insurance companies, naturally have a stronger appetite for shares if prices are generally increasing. Should the stock market be in a pronounced downward phase next month, investors may find themselves with very little appetite for such a big issue. They might just choke

It has a definite Telecom ring to it

and decide they do not want British Gas, and if they do the share price will probably fall.

Some analysts say the Government cannot afford to let small investors suffer in this way - there will be a general election sooner or later. So the bankers may have to pitch the share price so low that a profit for everyone is guaranteed. But we do not know the share price yet, only that the minimum investment will be £150 worth of shares.

The shares are likely to be paid for in instalments, so an outlay of less than that will be required in the same way that only 50p was required as the first instalment of the £1 TSB shares.

There are important differences from the TSB issue. The two should not be confused. British Gas is not a

give-away. The Government takes the money paid for shares. In the case of TSB, shareholders own all the assets of the business, including the money they paid for their stake in the bank.

The pattern of inducements to buy and hold British Gas shares definitely has a Telecom ring to it. Subscribers will be eligible for vouchers providing a discount on bills at the rate of £10 per hundred shares held. The alternative is a loyalty bonus - one share free for every 10 shares bought and held for three years.

British Gas customers are certain to receive shares, provided they register their interest by contacting the British Gas Share Information Office by November 14 at the latest. The address is PO Box 1, Bristol BS99 1EG (0172-272272). British Gas showrooms also have information packs and registration forms.

So far there have been two million inquiries, but there are 16 million British Gas customers, all of whom are entitled to register and be sure of their shares.

Precisely who will receive the priority status in households where accommodation is shared is uncertain. But the company has made it quite clear that there will be one priority application per

metered supply. If the issue turns out to be attractive, the flotation may prove to be a charter for domestic quarrels. Two million applicants are expected to be disappointed by the TSB issue, which will be traded for the first time next Friday. British Gas is unafraid of a huge share register.

Reward must be the intention

Mr Alt says he wants "as many as possible" of the 16 million British Gas customers to apply for shares. The TSB's target was a modest one million subscription list. This inference must be that the intention is to reward British Gas applicants with a stake in the company.

There can be little doubt that British Gas will finish 1986 as the company with the biggest share register in Britain. How the organizers of the issue envisage informing 98 per cent of the population about the sale is a question which intrigues the marketing and publicity industry.

More Colin Welland? More punk opera television commercials? By next month you will know about the British Gas sale whether you like it or not.

CS INTERNATIONAL FUND

Newsworthy!

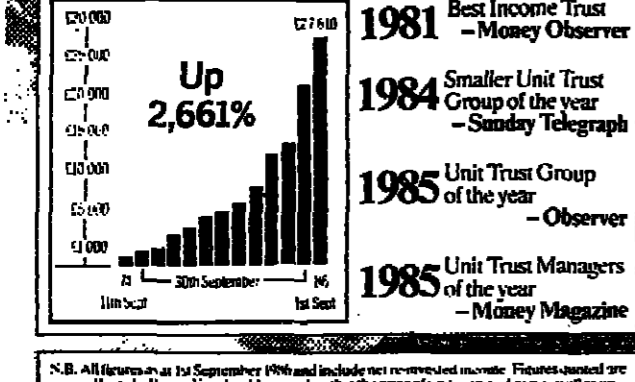
Top Performer
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OBSERVER 15th Dec 85

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THE TIMES 5th July 86

Highest Marks
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General Information

Upon receipt of your application form a contract note will be sent, followed by a certificate in 7 weeks. Unit prices and dividends (quoted in the Financial Times) can be sold back to the Managers at not less than the minimum bid price calculated on a formula approved by the Department of Trade. The Trust is authorised by the Department of Trade and constituted by a Deed. An initial charge of 3% is included in the offer price of units, from which remuneration is payable to qualified intermediaries at rates applicable on receipt. The annual charge is set at 1.5% plus VAT of the value of the Trust's net assets up to a maximum of 2% per annum in the Deed. This is followed from the gross income and is allowed out of the current year's yield. Dividends will be paid yearly on the 2nd October. However the estimated gross yield is 1%.

Trustees: Barclays Bank Trust Company Limited, 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH.

Managers: Vanguard Trust Managers Limited, 65 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2EU. Telephone: 01-236 9053.

The aim of the fund is to provide the unitholder with good capital growth in the medium and long term. Please remember that the value of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

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There is a 2% introductory discount until close of business on 17 October 1986. Please note that the fund will be valued daily from 1st October 1986, and the discount will apply to the offer price at the daily valuation.

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First Names (in full)
Surname (Mr, Mrs, Miss)
Address
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Signature
Date

Please indicate your professional status (if applicable)

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FAMILY MONEY/2

How to get your money back

PROTECTION

The Government has left to the last minute one of the most vital aspects of the investor protection legislation trundling through Parliament in the shape of the Financial Services Bill.

The provisions for compensating investors who lose money through the insolvency or fraud of an investment business are about as crucial an aspect of investor protection as you could get. Yet it was only on Tuesday evening this week that the Government, acting through the consumer affairs minister, Michael Howard, got round to tabling an amendment to the Bill revising the way in which a compensation scheme would be provided.

Apart from the Bill, the question of compensation is of course more than passing interest in the light of the continuing saga of McDonald Wheeler Fund Management. This is the investment management and advisory company based in Canterbury, Kent, which was recently placed in the hands of the Official Receiver.

A letter to people who had entrusted their money to the company was sent out by James Pope, the Official Receiver, just over a fortnight ago. These people included those who had invested £8.9 million in nine managed funds operated by McDonald Wheeler.

Mr Pope's letter contains the following news for these people: "There will be a substantial deficiency between the amount of the monies invested in the nine managed funds and the likely realizable value of the underlying assets."

The account of the way this money was used - which is reproduced here - goes a long way to explaining the plight of those investing in the managed funds.

McDonald Wheeler investors are on their own. There is no compensation fund in existence which applies to them.

The intention of the Financial Services Bill, however, is that there should be a compensation fund which would protect all investors, apart from professional investors, who lose money through the fraud or insolvency of an investment business.

Unfortunately, the financial

services industry is sharply divided on the best way in which it should be achieved.

There are two options. First, there could be an industry-wide compensation scheme. Broadly speaking, this would entail all the self-regulating organizations (SROs) - the bodies which will be primarily responsible for policing all the different financial sectors - collectively compensating investors when an investment business goes bust.

A solution along these lines is favoured by the Government, the Bank of England, most of the SROs and the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the parent body headed by Sir Kenneth Berrill, which will oversee the SROs and policing certain businesses itself.

The amendment to the Bill tabled on Tuesday gives the SIB the power to impose an industry-wide scheme broadly along these lines, on the entire network of SROs.

The alternative is to allow every SRO to do its own thing. In other words, every SRO would be responsible for producing a scheme that would provide compensation to investors losing money through the insolvency or fraud of one of that SRO's members.

This solution is favoured by the Stock Exchange and a body called the International Securities Regulatory Organisation (ISRO), which represents the interests of large international banks and securities firms. ISRO and the Stock Exchange are planning to merge shortly.

The Stock Exchange is a case in point. It already has a good compensation scheme.

Compensation can be withheld

Investors who lose money through the failure or fraud of a Stock Exchange member firm will be able to recover the full amount of their loss from this compensation fund.

The Stock Exchange is intending to put a ceiling on recoverability of £250,000 per investor. In addition, the scheme is discretionary in the sense that the Stock Exchange can withhold compensation either in part or in full, if it considers that the investor is in some way to blame for his loss.

Then there is the question of how much. There will definitely be a ceiling on the amount of money that you can get back from the compensation scheme.



Key men: Sir Kenneth Berrill, left, and Michael Howard

The scheme is none the less an admirable one which the Stock Exchange would like to preserve, not least because the paucity of claims on it has meant that it has been able to obtain insurance for the fund.

Cynics say the Stock Exchange has had a purple patch and that its fund would not look so rosy if a few member firms failed after Big Bang. They also say that more would be made of the discretionary element of the payouts if the fund was faced with a rush of claims.

Arguments over the optimum way of providing compensation have been simmering beneath the surface ever since the Financial Services Bill was published in December. They blew up publicly this week.

Both sides have valid cards - but the Government and the SIB have the whip hand. They have the force of law behind them and it looks likely that they will prevail.

So what will be the outcome? The likelihood is that we shall have a mixture. The SIB wants a central scheme. But this will pay out only when an SRO does not have the resources to satisfy compensation claims arising from the failure or fraud of one of its members.

The first big question is what losses any sort of compensation scheme will pay for. An investor's losses will include any gains he has forgone or interest he could have earned on his money. In essence he will be able to take from the fund the amount he would have got had he successfully brought an action for damages against the firm concerned.

Then there is the question of how much. There will definitely be a ceiling on the amount of money that you can get back from the compensation scheme.

Neither NASDIM nor FIMBRA, as it now is, had or has a compensation scheme. Some luckless McDonald Wheeler investors appear to have been under the impression that it had.

WHERE THE £8.9m WENT

| Amount (£m) | How applied | Comments |
|-------------|---|--|
| 4.2 | Invested by way of shares capital or unsecured loans in private companies | These investments are primarily in the nature of venture capital |
| 1.8 | Invested in quoted securities or externally managed funds | These investments are progressively being realized |
| 1.3 | Management and administration charges and initial fees | Paid to McDonald Wheeler Fund Management Ltd |
| 0.6 | Loaned to McDonald Wheeler Fund Management Ltd | This money was utilized to finance the operation of the company |
| 0.3 | Cash balances and amounts due from stockholders and clients, net of amounts due to them | |
| 0.7 | Unexplained differences | Still under inquiry |

It must be emphasized that the amounts invested in both private companies and quoted securities cannot be taken as an indication of the ultimate realizations.

MURRAY INCOME TRUST PLC

MANAGERS: MURRAY JOHNSTONE LIMITED

Results for the year ended 30 June 1986

| | 1986 | 1985 |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Equity shareholders' interest | £154,684,652 | £112,686,767 |
| Asset value per share | 185.2p | 135.0p |
| Revenue available for ordinary shareholders | £4,502,952 | £4,283,618 |
| Earnings per ordinary share | 5.48p | 5.22p |
| Ordinary dividend per share - interim | 1.80p | 1.70p |
| Ordinary dividend per share - final | 3.60p | 3.30p |
| Capitalisation issue in B ordinary shares | 3.025355% | 3.78035% |

Investment Policy

To obtain a high income return with security and growth of capital.

Highlights for the Year ended 30 June 1986

- * Net asset value per share increased by 37.2% compared with an average increase of 36.8% for all investment trusts.
- * A total dividend of 5.48p per share is recommended - an increase of 8% over 1985.
- * Net revenue attributable to ordinary shareholders rose from £4,283,618 to £4,502,952 - an increase of 5.1% over 1985.
- * In the current year a start has been made to increase investment overseas and borrowings have been increased by 6% to allow better control over currency exposure.

Distribution of assets as a percentage of shareholders' equity

| | 1986 % | 1985 % | (Cont) | 1986 % | 1985 % |
|----------------|--------|--------|-----------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Equities | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 10.66 | 79.88 | Investment Fund | 107.45 | 109.26 |
| North America | 8.42 | 10.18 | Private Capital and Loans | 7.48 | (9.26) |
| Far East | 2.81 | 4.45 | Equity Shareholders' Interest | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Europe | 6.74 | 5.21 | | | |
| Other Americas | 0.80 | 0.37 | | | |
| South Africa | — | 0.46 | | | |
| | 99.43 | 100.54 | | | |
| | | | Currency exposure of the year end | | |
| | | | Net currency exposure | 5,000 | % |
| Bonds | | | United Kingdom | 118,873 | 76.84 |
| United Kingdom | 1.37 | 1.65 | North America | 14,673 | 9.49 |
| North America | 2.85 | 5.25 | Japan | 420 | 0.27 |
| Europe | 0.33 | 0.43 | Far East | 7,137 | 4.62 |
| Far East | 1.71 | 0.40 | Europe | 12,339 | 7.98 |
| Japan | 0.27 | 0.28 | Other Americas | 1,241 | 0.80 |
| | 6.53 | 8.02 | Total | 154,685 | |
| Property | 0.47 | — | Percentage | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Net cash | 0.72 | 0.70 | | | |

Copies of the report may be obtained from the Secretary, Murray Johnstone Limited, 163 Hope Street, Glasgow G2 2JH. Telephone: 041-221 9252

Paradise funds regained three years later

CURRENCIES

The beginning of the end for currency funds began on September 15, 1983. Or so it seemed.

That was the date chosen by Nigel Lawson to announce a clampdown on offshore currency funds by changing the tax rules. Up to that point, the great benefit for UK investors was that they could roll up a potentially onerous income tax liability into a minimal or even non-existent capital gains one.

So much money had been attracted into these Channel Islands-based funds in the early part of 1983 that one of the financial institutions offering them, Rothschild Asset Management, was actually about to celebrate \$1 billion of funds under management on the very day of the Government's dramatic announcement.

The result was that the champagne corks stayed firmly in the bottles and Paradise was cancelled. Or was it?

After three years of keeping a low profile on its currency funds Rothschild is now beginning to trumpet their virtues once again. Maybe it was just a case of Paradise postponed.

Rothschild now wants to put the historical roll-up trick into perspective by extolling the other benefits of currency investment.

These benefits are twofold. Not only can investors get access to wholesale rates of interest in sterling or other major currencies - they can also acquire foreign currencies at inter-bank rates of exchange.

Not that the tax advantages have disappeared completely.

By having income rolled up in the fund, investors can choose when to pay income tax - perhaps when they retire and move into a lower tax band - though not whether to pay income tax, as was the case before September 1983.

Interestingly though, the roll-up trick is still valid in some countries, which is why Rothschild can boast investors from as far away as the Falkland Islands and the People's Republic of China.

Rothschild also now op-



Lawson: 1983 clampdown

creates a Mark II-type currency fund in which it is possible under existing legislation to make distributions of the interest every six months on which income tax is payable on the interest element but not on any currency appreciation. This remains subject only to capital gains tax, which is not a real tax for most individual investors.

Tax mechanics aside, the fundamental question for investors is which currencies are likely to strengthen against sterling during the next year or so. On that point, Rothschild's not entirely flippant view is "practically all of them".

In particular, Rothschild expects sterling to get weaker

against the major continental European currencies and the Japanese yen, for a variety of economic and political reasons.

In particular, runs the argument, foreign investors will not warm to the possibility of a Labour government because of what are perceived to be unwelcome inflationary implications. Quite separately, the yen will continue to strengthen against sterling because of Japan's continuing and enormous current account surplus.

Guinness Mahon is another big name in the currency fund game. His view of GM's currency investment adviser, Philip Saunders, is that it is the harder European currencies - the West German mark, the Swiss franc, the Dutch florin and the French franc, in that order - that will strengthen most against sterling in the months to come.

To this list, Saunders adds the yen, which he feels has some life left in it yet, despite its rapid advancement since September 1985.

Currency guru seem agreed that sterling is entering fairly valued territory against European currencies but that the pendulum may swing too far over to the weak side before a fair equilibrium is reached.

Most of the financial institutions which market currency funds offer the alternative of a managed fund or individual funds where the investor himself chooses which currency to be in.

Unless you have a particular reason for wanting exposure to the Danish krone or the Italian lira, our advice is to opt for a managed fund and let the currency experts take the investment strain.

Peter Gartland

Legal & General's Far Eastern Trust has out-performed every other unit trust in its sector during 1986*

Now, Legal & General introduce their exciting new Japanese Trust.

Apply now for your 'Early Investor' extra unit allocation!

See how you benefit.

| Date of payment | AMOUNT INVESTED £1,000-£4,999 | AMOUNT INVESTED £5,000-£9,999 | £10,000+ |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Between 8-14 October | 1.5% | 2% | 2.5% |
| Between 15-31 October | 1% | 1.5% | 2% |

PLUS An extra 1% will be given on the excess of money invested over £2,500. This allocation is in addition to those outlined above. Early investors will also benefit from a fixed price of only 50p per unit until 28th October 1986.

NEW UNIT TRUST INVEST TODAY!

Objective of the Trust

The aim of the Trust is to maximise capital growth from securities quoted on the Japanese stock market. It is anticipated that the initial portfolio distribution will favour domestic-related stocks.

Up to 25% of the Fund may be invested in the Tokyo Over the Counter Market.

The estimated gross starting yield is expected to be less than 1%. The minimum investment in the Trust is £1,000.

You should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

But when you look at the track record of our Fund Managers to date, you can certainly view the future with confidence.

INVEST NOW AND BENEFIT FROM YOUR 'EARLY INVESTOR' BONUS ALLOCATION.

Complete the application form straight away and return it with a cheque for your investment - minimum £1,000 - to Legal & General to receive your 'Early Investor' Bonus Allocation and the fixed price of 50p per unit.

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Our Far Eastern Trust was launched in September 1985. In its first 285 days, it achieved a staggering growth figure of 100%.*

Now, the same Fund Management team are set to launch the new Japanese Trust on 8th October 1986. It's an exciting prospect!

LEGAL & GENERAL'S new Japanese Trust is the latest addition to our growing range of Unit Trusts.

And it will be managed by the same team responsible for the tremendous success of the Legal & General Far Eastern Trust.

One of the most remarkable features of post-war years has been the rapid expansion of the Japanese economy. With a Gross National Product totalling around \$1,282 billion in 1985, Japan has become the second largest economy in the world after the US.

The capitalisation of the Japanese equity market now represents more than one quarter of the world's total share value.

In addition, it is widely expected that steps will be taken to stimulate the domestic economy. This may bring about an improvement in the country's infrastructure and help reduce the nation's reliance on exports.

Opportunities Ahead

All this could mean exciting times ahead for those experienced in the workings of the Japanese markets.

Legal & General's Fund Managers have the experience! And they've proved it handsomely already with their astonishingly successful

management of the Legal & General Far Eastern Trust.

Now the same team will manage the new Japanese Trust on behalf of Legal & General's investors, bringing to it the same committed, experienced professionalism.

GENERAL INFORMATION

INVESTMENT: Minimum £1,000, subsequent investments must be for a minimum of £200. Unit price, published daily in The Times and the Financial Times. Contract notes issued, certificates forwarded within 10 days of payment. The Trust Deed also provides for investment in traded options subject to certain conditions.

SHARES: The preliminary charge built into the offer price is 7% Annual management charge: 1% of the value of the Fund, plus VAT deducted from the income of the Fund, with a provision to increase this to 2% on paying three months' notice. The Managers may take a rounding adjustment to bid and offer price of up to 1% or 1.5% whichever is the lower. Redemption is payable in quoted intermediaries' rates on request.

LOANS: Investors buying units from this offer will receive their first certificate on 30th December 1986 and each 30th December thereafter. On 30th October 1986, the offer price of units will be 50p per unit. Applications for units received after the close date of 28th October will be dealt at the current offer price.

A discount of 2% is given on the offer price of units bought with reinvested income. SEI (SIC) simply enclose your certificate and send it to the Managers. Payment based on the ruling bid price will normally be made within seven working days.

SHARES: We will exchange most quoted UK shares for units in the Japanese Trust. Please tick the box on the Application Form and full details will be sent to you.

REGISTERED DETAILS: The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Managers, Legal & General (Unit Trust Managers) Ltd, Registered Office: Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4Q 3DF. (FP Registered in England No. 1009184. Member of the Unit Trust Association. REG. NO. 0010000. Legal & General (Unit Trust Managers) Limited, Dept. DM, FREEPOST, Croydon, Surrey CR9 9EB.

PRIORITY APPLICATION FORM for Legal & General's new Japanese Trust.

To: Legal & General (Unit Trust Managers) Limited, Dept. DM, FREEPOST, Croydon, Surrey CR9 9EB.

I/We wish to invest in Legal & General's Japanese Trust. (Minimum £1,000) £

A cheque made payable to Legal & General (Unit Trust Managers) Limited is enclosed.

I/We claim my/our Early Investor Bonus. I/We would like income to be reinvested in further units automatically. I/We would like further details about Legal & General's Share Exchange Scheme.

Please write in BLOCK CAPITALS

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss) _____

First Name(s) in full _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Signature(s) _____

Date _____

(In the case of a joint investment, all must sign)

Name of Usual Financial Adviser (if any) _____

This offer is not available to residents of The Republic of Ireland nor to applicants under age 18.

Legal & General Unit Trust Managers

The confidence of proven success.

A keen eye on share crooks

FRAUD

This week the first defendants were prosecuted for obtaining British Telecom shares by deception. Their crime is known in the City as a multiple application - applying for shares under several false names. The idea is to multiply the chances of gaining shares in a new share issue that looks as though it will be successful. Many a household pet has had an application for shares made in its name.

Until the Government began its privatization programme in earnest the multiple application was regarded as part and parcel of the successful issue. City mores were extremely relaxed on this practice, but stopped short of even admission or approval. The attitude to multiple applications mirrored the attitude to embarrassing diseases. No one would admit to contamination, but everyone seemed to know of someone who was contaminated.

But the success of the BT issue backfired on some of the multiple applicants. The once accepted practice suddenly became theft of government property, and the share-owning pets were suddenly dropped from luncheon conversations.

The TSB has identified 6,200 "suspect" applications. The accompanying cheques have all been cashed while the process of inquiry takes its course. The TSB is doing its best not to prejudge.

The applications all went into the ballot, but the bank will be in no hurry to return the money until it is sure that the applicants are genuine.

If the TSB finds multiple

applications, it will "send the names off to the Director of Public Prosecutions - after that it is out of the bank's hands". It will be interesting to see if the DPP takes a similarly stern line when the people cheated are the bank's shareholders rather than the Government.

British Gas is the next opportunity for the unscrupulous. Assuming the issue is attractive enough to lure multiple applications, the British Gas issue should present horrendous logistical problems for those trying to police the issue. The company wants as many of its 16 million customers as possible to subscribe. Imagine trying to sort out the cheats in that crowd.

Special team has been brought in

The major deterrent used by the organizers of the flotations seems to be publicity. The threat of prosecution and the constant utterances that justice will be swift and terrible are seen as the most potent weapons. The emphasis is on prevention rather than cure, though the TSB did go to the lengths of keeping video cameras in certain branches to record shameless applicants.

A tiny handful were prosecuted for their BT antics - fewer than 10 out of an original shareholders' register (almost certainly containing their fair share of cats, dogs and fictitious personages) of more than 2.5 million.

The British Gas strategy will be, according to a spokesman, to "go a stage further than the TSB. We will explain what a multiple application is as well as warning against



Lord Roskill: fraud report

doing it. One application for everyone in the family is fine, but no more.

The Government is understandably keen to deal with fraud strictly, and to be seen to do so. This week's Home Office response to Lord Roskill's report on financial fraud published earlier this year has set out to streamline the criminal procedure in certain cases of "serious fraud", as well as proposing to modify the law of evidence to make more documentary evidence admissible, as well as evidence gathered abroad.

Perhaps the most useful innovation is a special team of lawyers, accountants and company law experts to liaise with the police in serious fraud investigations.

The Home Secretary Douglas Hurd called this week for the "combating (of) fraud and safeguarding the probity of our financial institutions".

There is, however, no guarantee that multiple applications will be regarded as serious fraud. The Home Office feels the definition should not be committed to inflexible legal rules, but a serious fraud would be "something which was both complex and sizeable, a massive, straightforward fraud would probably not be a serious fraud."

Martin Baker

A holiday home to work for you

PROPERTY

Buying a little place in the country and renting it out as a holiday home in the summer months can be one of the most profitable and enjoyable ways of investing your money. And, provided the house qualifies as furnished holiday accommodation, a number of valuable tax reliefs are available.

To qualify as furnished holiday accommodation the property must meet certain conditions. It must be situated in the United Kingdom and must be let on a commercial basis. It must be available for holiday letting for at least 140 days during the tax year and must be actually let for at least 70 days.

In addition, during any seven-month period the property should not normally be in the same occupation for a continuous period of more than 31 days. Although rental income is normally taxed as investment income with all the tax disadvantages that this entails, income from furnished holiday lettings enjoys most - but not all - of the benefits of being taxed as trading income.

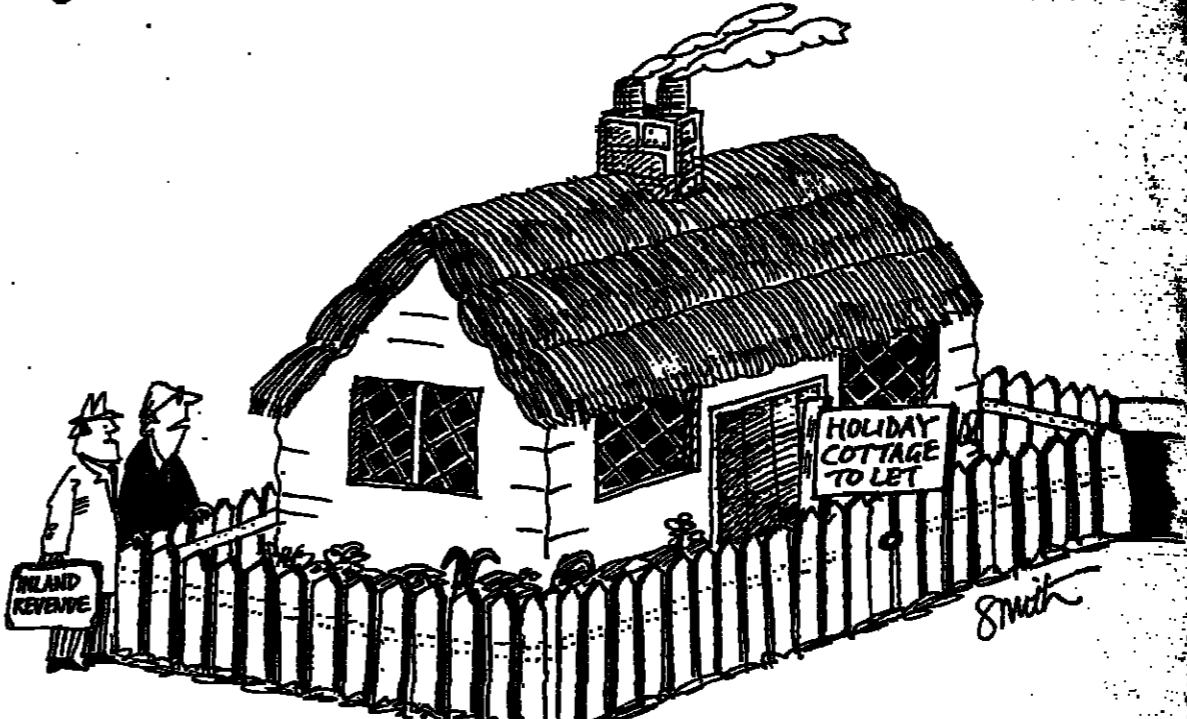
What then are these tax advantages?

First, you can claim capital allowances, a means of reducing the initial cost, on any items of plant and machinery you buy for the house. Plant and machinery is a surprisingly wide term and would normally

Rent from furnished places is earned income

include items such as carpets, curtains and furniture as well as fixtures and fittings. The capital allowances given are 25 per cent writing-down allowances. This contrasts with the treatment of non-qualifying furnished lettings where a wear-and-tear allowance of up to 10 per cent of rental income can be set off against any income tax liability.

Another attractive feature of furnished holiday accommodation is that the rental is treated as earned



I'm suspicious - the owner is claiming an allowance for the installation of eight computer terminals and a Jaguar

income. If it is held in the wife's name, wife's earned income relief is available. Further, if the rent is substantial, it may be worthwhile making an election for separate assessment in order to make use of the wife's basic rate tax band.

This compares most favourably with other rental or investment income, which is always taxed on the husband at his highest marginal rate of tax even if the income belongs to the wife.

And there are capital gains tax advantages. In particular, a capital gain arising on the disposal of a property will be eligible for roll-over relief if it is a result of any liability to tax may be deferred indefinitely. The only condition is that a replacement asset must be bought within a period beginning one year before and ending three years after the property is sold. The replacement asset must be

used for the purposes of a trade carried on by the vendor but need not necessarily be a replacement holiday property. If the property is given away, capital gains hold-over relief will be available on the gift.

Possibly most importantly, furnished holiday accommodation qualifies as a business asset for capital gains retirement relief. Thus, provided you are aged over 60, or are retiring on the grounds of ill health, and have owned the property for at least one year before the date of sale, some measure of retirement relief will be available.

The maximum relief of £100,000 will be available if the property has been held for at least 10 years.

Although the relevant legislation was introduced only with effect from April 6, 1982, the Inland Revenue accepts that periods of ownership before this date qualify in determining the amount of retirement relief available.

There is little doubt that holiday accommodation is now an attractive proposition from a tax point of view. But there are some caveats for the would-be landlord. First, the tenants may not treat the property with the care and respect which might be expected from the owners. And, of course, there is always the danger of creating a protected tenancy under the Rent Acts.

If you are thinking of letting a holiday property, take professional advice on drawing up the letting agreement.

Brian Friedman



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In the cellars of Veuve Clicquot: bottles are shaken to bring sediment to the neck

It's cheers for a good drink at lower prices

CHAMPAGNE

With an increasing UK demand for champagne the growers started picking their Chardonnay grapes last Sunday and both the Pinot Noir and Meunier on September 30, knowing that a large volume was expected of good but not outstanding quality.

Investors will welcome the price reduction of 84 centimes a kilo for grapes from land classified as 100 per cent quality and, with land in the Aube in the south of the growing region at only 80 per cent, this in part explains the low-priced offers for champagne.

Another reason is that some brands may have been aged for only the legal minimum of one year compared with the

is not as bleak as some shippers have suggested. Stocks at the end of July were 630 million bottles, equivalent to 3.4 years' sales. By comparison, stocks were higher at 664 million bottles in July 1985.

Part of the essence of fine champagne, other than single vintage, is the careful blending from one year to another, just as from one village to another.

Because of the strict laws of Appellation Contrôlée, which limit the area under vine, the major companies are collaborating to produce sparkling wine outside north-east France. Taittinger has linked up with its US distributor, the Korbrand Corporation, to buy nearly 100 acres in California's Napa Valley following Moët's successful venture in the same state with Domaine Chandon.

Even more surprising is the link between Piper Heidsieck and an Indian company to produce champagne in western Maharashtra, launched this spring under the Marquise de Pompadour label.

Champagne investors are aware of the demand for such sparkling wines and UK clearances are up 9.1 per cent on the moving annual total to June.

There is certainly demand for quality champagnes, insists Richard Swanwick, the managing director of Lawlers and Champagne Henriot. He says Henriot's own 257 acres are of good quality and will contribute well to their Brut Souverain and, for buyers who like a less effervescent champagne, their Blanc de Blancs Crémant.

Christie's, says the market is small but strong. The Christie's sale on Thursday reflected this trend with keen bidding for older vintages of Krug and Bollinger Tradition recently disgorged.

Since vintage has a declared age it commands generally a higher price at auction. *Grandes marques* of the 1966 vintage were in this week's sale at £110 to £140 for brands such as Mumm Cordon Rouge, Charles Heidsieck and Heidsieck Dry Monopole. Taittinger's Comtes de Champagne, made only from white grapes, is also in demand at £220 to £300 a dozen bottles.

US bidders at auction last year invested particularly in Louis Roederer Cristal, Krug and Dom Pérignon.

With a buyer's 10 per cent premium at auction it may be

Careful blending from year to year

four to five years for non-vintage *grandes marques*.

The price fall at source follows a dramatic increase to 23.03 francs a kilo last year. Current stock being shipped to Britain is based on prices of 19.03 francs in 1982, 15.53 francs in 1983, 18.07 francs in 1984, 23.03 francs in 1986 and now 22.19 francs.

Twenty-five years ago grapes accounted for 12 per cent of the final bottle price but today the level is around 50 per cent, excluding duty.

Champagne shipments last year were the highest ever at 195.4 million bottles, an increase of 3.92 per cent on 1984.

The reserve stock position

Wine with a depth of flavour

worthwhile to compare prices from traditional wine merchants. Among those with good stocks are Tanners of Shrewsbury, Shropshire, Lay and Wheeler of Colchester, Essex, Adnams of Southwold, Suffolk, and London-based Findlater Mackie Todd and Hatch Mansfield, the Allied subsidiary.

For a novel surprise try Albert Boeren's non-vintage made entirely in the Aube and available from Bibendum, of 113 Regent's Park Road, London NW1. It has a depth of flavour that comes only from a single grower's wine. It might well be a trend for the future.

Duncan McEwan, of

Conal Gregory

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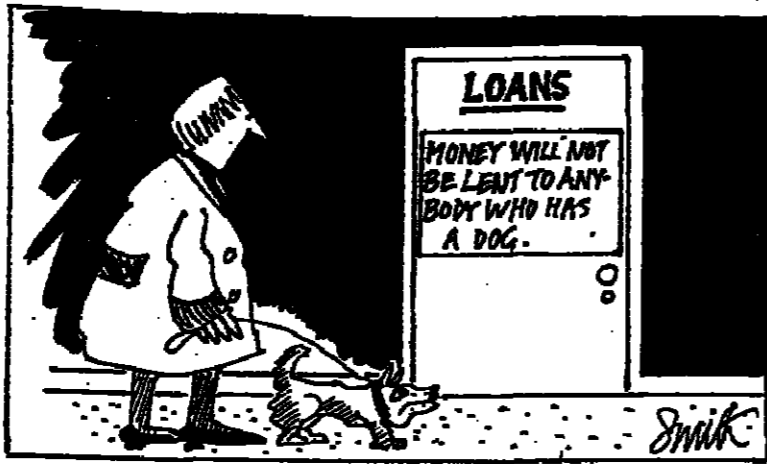
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UNIT TRUST ASSOCIATION

FAMILY MONEY/4

Through the roof gently

The rise and rise of house prices continues, but more gently. The Abbey National Building Society's latest figures show an overall increase in UK house prices of 4.1 per cent over the last quarter. As ever, Greater London led the market upwards, adding 6.8 per cent on average. The mean cost of a house in Greater London is now £58,073. In the North, however, there was little movement, with the average cost of a house at £25,076, a modest gain of 1.7 per cent over the quarter.



continues to perform above average for funds of its kind, investors should see a real return. Clearly a case of "the price of units can go sideways as well as up".

Holiday money

Barclaycard is now in the business of distributing spending money. People who use the card to pay for at least part of their holiday will receive a discount of up to £200. The deal applies only to package holidays booked by Holiday Club members with one of 37 tour operators. All Barclaycard holders will shortly be invited to join the Holiday Club, run by travel agents Page & Moy.

Fund change

CS Investments is uniting its Group Investors investment trust. It will now be an international growth unit trust with a highly competitive front-end load of only 2 per cent, available up to April 15, 1987.

Midlands merger

Appetites are voracious in the Midlands. The recently merged Birmingham Midshires Building Society has plans to expand still further. This week the boards of the Birmingham Midshires and the

Widening trusts

The Unit Trust Association, which represents the majority of UK unit trust groups, has told the Government it favours offering more market funds to the public but not commodity unit trusts. In addition, UTA members have given a guarded welcome to the idea of funds which would be allowed to invest in physical property.

Money-back 'first'

Gartmore Fund Managers is claiming a first with its new Safeguard plan, a five-year single premium bond marketed in conjunction with General Portfolio Life Insurance. The "first" point arises from Gartmore's guarantee that the money repaid to investors at the end of the five years will be no less than the original investment.



Civil Service Building Society met to consider a possible merger. The Civil Service society is something of a tiddler - its assets are just £43 million compared with the £1,700 million of Birmingham Midshires. If the merger, which would require agreement from both sets of members, goes ahead, the new society will be among the biggest 15 in Britain.

Heiry subject

If inheritance tax really is a political shuttlecock, then the sooner you take planning action the more successful it is likely to be. That is the view of chartered accountants Dearden Farrow, who have just produced a 16-page pocket guide to IHT, the tax which Nigel Lawson introduced in this year's Budget as a replacement for capital transfer tax.

Describing IHT as "Jekyll and Hyde legislation", Dearden Farrow says that in the tax year 1986-87, you hit the 50 per cent IHT rate if you die leaving more than £206,000. However, in what the accountants call "the curious logic of this legislation" individuals can make a gift of up to £71,000 (married couples up to £142,000) without having to pay any tax.

Into property

Yet another financial institution has acquired a chain of estate agencies, in the continuing erosion of demarcation lines in the financial services sector. This time it is the turn of Laurentian Holding Company, whose members include Imperial Life and Trident Life insurance companies. Laurentian has acquired Jordans-Town and County Estates (Cheshire) Ltd, comprising 22 sales offices.

Joining up

Increased awareness of share ownership in the wake of public flotation has led to a significant increase in the number of employees joining savings-related share option schemes with a view to buying shares in the company for which they work.



IT SEEMS THEY'RE TALKING OUR LANGUAGE.

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Form for Save & Prosper investment, including fields for Name, Address, Postcode, Tel No, and Business.

This one is strictly for fun money gamblers

Anyone who has not been allotted Trustee Savings Bank shares will still have a chance to deal in them after October 10 without necessarily having to buy them in the stock market. This week the Stock Exchange announced it was launching an option contract for TSB shares.

buy a "put" option which allows you to sell the shares. As the price of options moves as well as the underlying share price, you can sell the options without actually exercising the contract.

this market and take an active interest in it," says Geoffrey Chamberlain, one of its founding members. "It is one of the best inventions for the private investor. But if you participate without understanding and paying attention to the system, you're the mug."

Rather like driving a fast sports car

that success with the popular TSB issue. But options are only for the serious investors. By comparison with the ordinary stock market, options are rather like driving a fast sports car instead of a lumbering Daimler. They are more exhilarating, but also more painful if you come off the road.

Special booklet is being produced

build up from there as you gain experience." Anyone with a gambling streak and a taste for intellectual challenges should contact the Stock Exchange for more information on options at The Traded Options Market, The Stock Exchange, London EC2N 1HP. The Stock Exchange is even producing a special booklet on the TSB option.

Richard Thomson Banking Correspondent

But whether this market will ever appeal to small first time shareholders who have been attracted to the TSB issue in their hundreds of thousands is doubtful. Whether it should attract them is more doubtful still.

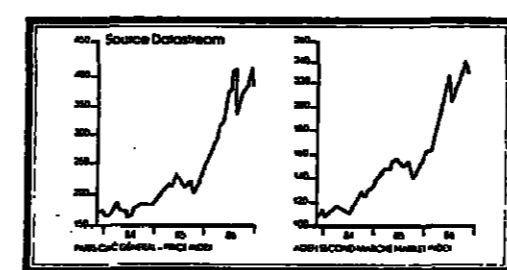
Finally, from France, a French Unit Trust



Marianne - the symbol of the Republic of France, was originally the nickname of a secret republican society. Today she represents the spirit, ingenuity and resource of France - and to Duménil she symbolizes France's new financial revolution and the growth potential of the French economy.

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Shrewd observers of financial markets are looking just across the Channel for the next major investment opportunity. Little surprise when the French economy is assessed to be on a 5 to 10 year growth cycle, when its Government is committed to a share-owning democracy and offers tax incentives to entrepreneurs and venture capitalists.



leading French securities house specialising in bond portfolios; its subsidiary, Cofinox, is a leading specialist in equities. In France the Group manages 7 mutual funds and 5 unit trusts and a total of private and institutional money exceeding £1 billion.

Remember that the price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up. You should regard your investment as long term.

Further information: Buying and selling units. You can buy further units, or sell those you have, on any business day, at the prices ruling on the day you receive your instructions. The prices of units and the yield are published daily in the press. Your instructions to buy or sell will be acknowledged immediately if you wish to sell your units, simply complete the enclosure on the back of your Certificate and return it to the Manager.

Invest now at a Fixed Price Until October 17th, 1986, units can be purchased at the Fixed Price of 100p with an estimated initial gross yield of 2.0% p.a. To invest, return the coupon with your cheque (minimum £1,000) without delay.

Form for Fixed Price Offer, including fields for Surname, Forenames, Address, and Signature.

Joint applications should sign and give details separately. This offer is only open to investors over 18 years old (that open to the residents of the Republic of Ireland). To Duménil Unit Trust Management Limited, 54 St. James's Street, London SW1A 1JT.

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French speciality for the British investor

UNIT TRUSTS

Britain's first authorized unit trust to concentrate exclusively on the French stock market is to be launched this weekend.

The Dumenil Growth Fund is to be marketed by the French financial institution Dumenil Leble. Hard on its heels in a few days from now, a second France-only equity fund will make its debut. It comes from the Dutch banking group EBC AMRO.

The minimum investment in the Dumenil fund is £1,000. £500 in the EBC AMRO fund. These launches highlight just how specialized the unit trust industry has become.

Unit trust groups no longer make a big play of broadly based funds designed to maximize the spread of risk. Instead, the emphasis has shifted firmly towards specialization led by marketing hype.

Highly specialized funds can perform well and, provided investors keep a sharp eye on price movements, they can make handsome profits.

But you must be prepared to act quickly in the light of market movements because the more specialized the fund, the more likely it is to be either at the top or the bottom of the performance tables. The accompanying table illustrates this vividly.

It shows that Australian equity unit trusts have been a disaster area during the past 12 months, but have set an uncharacteristically cracking pace during September 1986. Funds specializing in other comparatively small markets, such as Singapore, or in highly volatile sectors such as gold, rarely chart a middle course either.

Single European country specialization, of which the

Dumenil Leble and EBC AMRO funds are the most recent examples, have been available for just over 12 months. The trend started in September 1985 with West German funds and was followed earlier this year by a fund specializing in Dutch equities, also from EBC AMRO.

Stephen Lansdown, a unit trust adviser, welcomes single European country funds because they allow him to build a well-made portfolio for clients. He cautions, however, that because individual continental European markets are relatively small, the funds concentrating on them can get into difficulty much more quickly than a general European fund.

The French market capitalization represents about only 15 per cent of total continental European capitalization.

Nigel Ledebor, of GT Investment Management, which was one of the pioneers of German funds, is positive on prospects for the French market. His optimism is based on a healthy outlook for corporate profits, coupled with the French government's privatization programme.

He is also convinced that sterling will remain in a downturn against EMS currencies, including the French franc, so UK investors could benefit from a currency revaluation.

Consuelo Brooks, of the unit trust group Mercury Fund Managers, regards France as one of the more attractive European economies for UK investors and said that while one should never be relaxed about the political scene in France, politics is not a major factor in the investment equation now. So the consensus is that



France represents a good, if speculative, opportunity for UK investors.

That being so, Dumenil Leble and EBC AMRO are unlikely to have a cosy duopoly on French funds for long. GT said it has no plans in this direction, but the French bank Société Générale is working on launch plans for its own UK-based unit trust to specialize in the French market.

This will complement its existing Second Marche Fund which is designed mainly for institutional investors who want a stake in the French equivalent of the USM.

But the clear message of highly specialized funds, whether it is France or Australia or gold, is that you cannot invest your money and simply forget about it.

Timing of both buying and selling is of the essence. It is also vital to remember that highly specialized funds are only for your spare cash.

That way, you will be delighted if your money doubles over just one year, but not devastated if it halves in value.

Peter Gartland

UNIT TRUST PERFORMANCE

As at September 30, 1986

| THE BEST | | |
|-----------------------|----------|------------------------|
| One Month | One Year | |
| Waverley Pac Basin | +40.9 | Legal & Gen Far East |
| Gartmore Australian | +25.3 | Country Japan Growth |
| Gartmore Gold Shares | +25.2 | Sun Life Japan Growth |
| M & G Gold & General | +20.8 | Starting First Europe |
| Schroder Gold | +20.8 | Dunedin Far East |
| Waverley Aust Gold | +20.2 | Mercury Japan |
| Target Gold | +17.9 | Baillie Gifford Europe |
| M & G Aust & General | +17.5 | Prudential Holborn Eur |
| Henderson Australian | +17.4 | Somerset Jap Tech&Gen |
| Barclays Unicorn Aust | +16.8 | Britannia Japan Perf |
| | | +105.7 |

| THE WORST | | |
|--------------------------|----------|------------------------|
| One Month | One Year | |
| Equitable Units N Amer | -10.8 | Sis Smaller Companies |
| Hambros Bank UT N Amer | -10.8 | Wardley Smir Companies |
| GT Unit Man Tech & Gwth | -11.0 | Baillie Australian |
| Oppenheimer Pacific Gwth | -11.1 | Hexagon Canada Growth |
| Save & Pros Glt & Fixed | -11.1 | Tyndal Australian Secs |
| Equity & Law Glt & Fixed | -11.2 | Target Commodity |
| Cherwell Med Glt & Fixed | -11.2 | Baillie Gifford Tech |
| GT Unit Mgrs US & Gen | -11.6 | MIM Britannia Uni Envy |
| Lawson Fd Mgrs Amer Gwth | -11.6 | Target Energy |
| Thornion UK & General | -17.0 | Target Australian |
| | | -28.5 |

One Month after to offer One Year Offer to bid Source: Opal Statistics

Diners who present the bill

Eating too much take-away food can play havoc with your waistline, but finding an unpleasant object in a hamburger and French fries is an incident that no one would relish.

Earlier this year a customer bought several take-away portions of hamburger and chips from McDonald's in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

As he was eating the French fries, he discovered that his mouth was bleeding. He had cut his tongue on a small triangular segment of glass. Other pieces of glass were found in the chips.

The incident was reported to the local environmental health officer and a prosecution was brought against the hamburger chain under Section 2 of the Food Act 1984. The Act says it is a criminal offence to sell "to a purchaser's prejudice, any food which is not of the nature, substance or quality demanded by the purchaser". McDonald's lost the case, was fined £1,000 and had to pay £75 costs. The company

'We did take precautions'

described the incident as a " freak accident".

A McDonald's spokesman said: "One of the heat bulbs above the fry station exploded. It has never happened before. The fry station was immediately taken out of action and completely dismantled, and all the parts were taken away and cleaned."

"When it was put back together again, it was checked again, to ensure it was free from glass. A piece of glass must have lodged somewhere and worked itself loose."

"We did take precautions to the best of our ability and knowledge. We regret the incident very much."

The environmental health officer confirmed that his inspection did not reveal any



Misfortune among the French fries: it cost this McDonald's restaurant more than £1,000 more pieces of glass. There were also no other breaches of the food regulations.

Food is subject to much more control than other goods. Recently, the owner of a Chinese take-away, The Bamboo Gardens in Cathedral Road, Cardiff, had 22 separate summonses issued against her under the food hygiene regulations.

She was fined a total of £2,200, being £100 for every one of the 22 offences. She also had to pay £100 costs.

Where a prosecution is brought by a local authority, the customer usually stands to get nothing from it. If he wants compensation, he will have to bring his own separate legal action.

According to one environmental health officer, only about 10 to 20 per cent of consumers decide to pursue their case. In order to succeed, a customer almost always has to prove negligence—in other words, that there was a breach of a duty of care owed to him, which caused him harm.

In one case, a family went to an Indian restaurant and ordered some lemonade for the children. They were given cleaning fluid instead. The owners of the restaurant were successfully prosecuted by the local authority.

Proving negligence can be difficult

cause of a more recent claim for damages. A customer had a drink in a pub. The pub had just cleaned out the barrels with a caustic solution.

The customer drank some of the beer which contained the solution, and he claimed damages from the pub for the terrible stomach pains and worry that he suffered.

His solicitor explained: "I was called out to the client to take what I was told was a death-bed statement. When I arrived, he was sitting up in bed watching the television! None the less, he was off work for a week. He got £300 damages in an out-of-court settlement."

Proving negligence can be very difficult. A woman recently fell over in a London department store. She had

slipped on a tomato on the floor and fractured her hip.

She is in her late fifties and as a result of the accident she will not be able to work again. The store argued that a tomato on the floor did not mean it was negligent. The customer finally accepted £10,000 offered by the store as a gesture of goodwill, but with no admission of liability.

It is not just for physical injury that you can claim damages. One solicitor said: "There are many instances where the injury is small but the worry is big."

"In one case my client, a porter in a hospital, was clearing up the debris. The syringes that had been used in an operation had not been packed away properly and pierced through the plastic bag into my client's thigh. The injury was insignificant but he got £250 in an out-of-court settlement just for the worry of it all."

One final piece of advice. If you do decide to bring a case for compensation, make sure you use a solicitor specializing in the subject. It is a complicated area of the law, where ignorance is far from bliss.

Susan Fieldman

Which investment offers the potential of a top performing unit trust and guarantees that your original investment is secure?

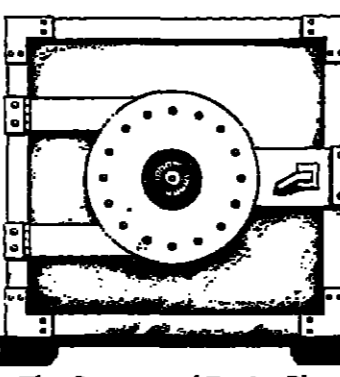
More and more people are becoming aware of the opportunities of investing in the exciting world of stocks and shares, but some are concerned that their savings may be at risk.

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How the Plan Works
By combining in one investment the growth potential of a unit trust and a guaranteed investment with a life assurance company, Safeguard allows you to capitalise, over 5 years, on the growth opportunities of investing in stocks and shares without risking your original investment.

The Guaranteed Element
The greater part (68%) of your money is invested by General Portfolio to provide a guaranteed return after five years. This ensures that your original investment will be returned to you intact in five years time.

SAFEGUARD



The Guaranteed Equity Plan

The Growth Element
The balance (32%) of your money will be used to purchase units in a fund—the Safeguard Fund—established by the life assurance company for this Plan and invested exclusively in units in the Gartmore Global Fund. This top performing unit trust was launched in 1973, and is now valued at over £4.2 million. It is well placed to take advantage of investment opportunities around the world.

Your Reward

The units allocated to the growth element provide your profit and remember, your original investment is secure. (The price of the Safeguard units will be published daily in the Financial Times.)

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Simply complete the attached Application Form and return it with your cheque to your professional adviser or to: SAFEGUARD, General Portfolio Life Insurance PLC, Valley House, Crossbrook Street, Cheshunt, Herts, EN8 8JH. Telephone enquiries: Freephone 0800-289321

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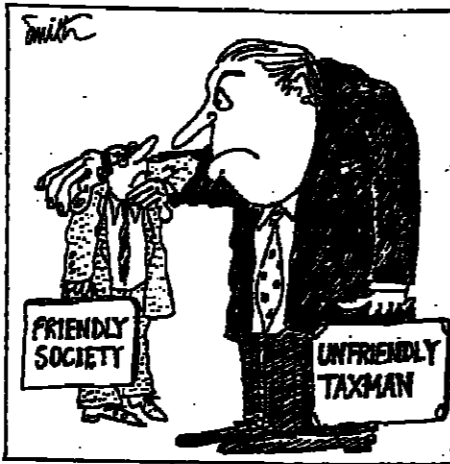
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FAMILY MONEY/6

The self-help groups with the tax advantages built in



Nothing is certain in this world, said Benjamin Franklin, except death and taxes. Death does indeed appear inevitable, but taxes can, just occasionally, be circumvented.

One possibility is to invest in a friendly society. These institutions originally developed in the last century as self-help groups for workers. Members contributed to a mutual fund, which would provide benefits in the event of sickness or death.

Victorian government approval of the self-help mentality, and, among other encouragements, allowed the societies a tax exemption on their investments. Although their original purpose was subsequently superseded by the advent of the Welfare State, the tax advantages remained, and led to the creation of new societies in more recent times.

The Inland Revenue kept a single contribution is also possible

wary eye on these to prevent any abuse of the privilege, and societies established post-1974 have been strictly limited in the contracts they can offer. But the real body blow, to new and old alike, was dealt two years ago, when the Chancellor cut the limits on tax-exempt business quite drastically.

As things stand now, friendly societies can issue tax-exempt life assurance policies with a sum assured - that is, the amount payable on death - of no more than £750. The standard format is a 10-year endowment policy, which is primarily a savings plan, though it does include this small amount of life cover.

The premiums for this work out at £100 a year, or £9 a month. It is also possible, in some cases, to pay a single contribution, usually £800. This is used to buy a temporary annuity, which in turn

funds the annual premiums. At the end of 10 years, the proceeds of the policy may be taken completely tax-free. Cashing in a plan sooner than that, however, will incur penalties. For the first seven and a half years, the society may return only premiums paid to date, and at all times there is liable to be a deduction for administration charges.

On the other hand, it is usually possible to continue a plan beyond the 10-year mark, and at that stage it can be cashed in at any time without penalty.

When it comes to investing funds, friendly societies do not have an entirely free hand, as 50 per cent must be placed in so-called "narrow range" instruments. These include gilts, fixed-interest securities and local authority loans. In other words, safety, rather than speculation, is the order of the day.

Within that, however, there are different schools of thought as to the level of safety. Some societies choose to invest entirely in building society deposits, while others opt for unit-linked funds, or a combination of the two.

The advantage of the unit-linked route is that it offers the chance of capital appreciation, while building society investments attract only interest. However, the initial charges tend to be more expensive, amounting sometimes to as much as 75 per cent of the first year's premium. Of course, units can also go down in value as well as up, so the choice boils down to how much risk the policyholder is prepared to accept.

With the low premium level, friendly society policies would be well suited for use as children's savings plans. That this market has not been more widely tapped is due to two factors.

First, the post-1974 societies may sell only to those aged 18 and over. Secondly, the Revenue has shown a readiness to clamp down on such selling by the older institutions.

Towards the end of last year, the Tunbridge Wells Equitable joined with Dominion Financial Management to bring out a Baby Bond, designed for children up to 18. This was the usual £100-a-year 10-year policy, but with the added advantage that if premiums were covenanted, by a grandparent, for instance, the child could claim back the tax on them.

This proved sufficiently popular to sell about 11,500 contracts within a few months, but the very success proved to be its downfall. The Revenue forced it to be withdrawn - effectively on the grounds that children's policies would qualify for tax

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P.S. A special report on British Gas and all its possibilities is in the current issue of New Issue Share Guide.

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Single contribution is also possible

The Inland Revenue kept a wary eye on these to prevent any abuse of the privilege, and societies established post-1974 have been strictly limited in the contracts they can offer. But the real body blow, to new and old alike, was dealt two years ago, when the Chancellor cut the limits on tax-exempt business quite drastically.

As things stand now, friendly societies can issue tax-exempt life assurance policies with a sum assured - that is, the amount payable on death - of no more than £750. The standard format is a 10-year endowment policy, which is primarily a savings plan, though it does include this small amount of life cover.

The premiums for this work out at £100 a year, or £9 a month. It is also possible, in some cases, to pay a single contribution, usually £800. This is used to buy a temporary annuity, which in turn

Several hybrid schemes available

However, an important concession was granted to the newer societies in last year's Finance Act. They are now allowed, like their older counterparts, to write taxable business. This gives them scope to offer plans with higher premiums, usually up to £300 a year, on a part taxable, part tax-exempt basis.

Several of these hybrid schemes are now available. Some are provided in conjunction with an insurance company, such as the Twice Tax Free Plan offered by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Friendly Society together with M.L.A. Others, such as that of Family Assurance, are entirely in-house affairs.

The first £100 of every annual premium is assigned to a tax-exempt fund, and follows the standard rules on cashing in and so forth. The remainder, being taxable, is more flexible. At the end of the 10-year-term, premiums can be stopped but the money left invested to appreciate further, or by paying a nominal premium to keep the policy in force, the investor can take partial withdrawals, tax-free, as an income.

With the higher contribution level and greater freedom, the hybrid offers more scope than the wholly exempt policy, while still making the most of the tax advantages. Obviously, with only £100 a year free of tax, there are no fortunes to be made at the Revenue's expense.

However, any gift from the taxman is worth a second look, and a hybrid plan in particular can be a worthwhile home for long-term savings.

Several hybrid schemes available

Towards the end of last year, the Tunbridge Wells Equitable joined with Dominion Financial Management to bring out a Baby Bond, designed for children up to 18. This was the usual £100-a-year 10-year policy, but with the added advantage that if premiums were covenanted, by a grandparent, for instance, the child could claim back the tax on them.

This proved sufficiently popular to sell about 11,500 contracts within a few months, but the very success proved to be its downfall. The Revenue forced it to be withdrawn - effectively on the grounds that children's policies would qualify for tax

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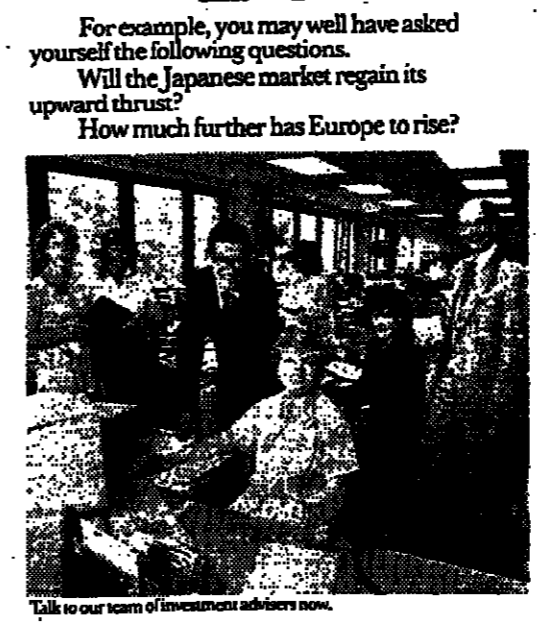
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Homework before the home loan

MORTGAGES

In taking out a mortgage you are borrowing a sum of money secured against a property, your home. You hope the value of the property will eventually rise. Meanwhile, the debt has to be repaid.

The big advantage of buying a home on mortgage is that it provides a roof over your head while you pay for it. At the end of about 25 years, or maybe sooner, you end up owning the roof and everything beneath it.

But there are hazards before reaching this happy day. Being homeless through non-payment of a mortgage debt is unpleasant. So the first move before taking up any offer of a mortgage is to work out the cost against present and future outgoings.

You have the option of borrowing from building societies, banks, insurance companies and, if you are a council tenant, local authorities. Some builders, such as Wimpey and Ideal Homes, offer mortgage assistance on new homes as part of a financial package, which includes fixed interest rates for the first year.

Brokers and estate agents can also arrange a mortgage for a fee. Check that the deal is at least as good as you would get by going to lenders direct.

Loans are geared to various types of borrowers - singles, or sharers, the young, the old, the self-employed, low earners hoping to be rich tomorrow, and yuppies who want the biggest loan they can get today.

Home ownership in the UK exceeds 60 per cent, but is up to 72 per cent for the 25-34 age group, the highest percentage of young home owners in Europe.

The most common mortgage is the repayment one. You pay off monthly and interest by equal capital payments until at the end of the loan term the debt is repaid entirely. Tax relief is given on loans of up to £30,000 so that on a mortgage rate of 11 per cent, the net rate at 29 per cent tax is 7.81 per cent.

This net amount is paid direct to the lending institution which recovers the tax relief element from the Inland Revenue. Loans of more than £30,000 will be included in the (MIRAS) net payment arrangement from April 1987. The advantage of a repayment mortgage is that if interest rates rise, repayments

can remain the same but be spread over a longer period. If you are aiming to move, say, within five years, a repayment mortgage is likely to be the best.

Assuming the house value rises even slightly during that period, you should be able to sell, with some cash in hand, and go up market with a bigger deposit.

A sub-section of repayment mortgages consists of the low-start or gross-profile ones. These are suitable for solicitors, accountants, doctors and others at the start of a professional career where salaries are likely to rise fairly quickly from the level of, say, an article clerk.

More interest is paid in the early part of the loan and more tax relief thereby gained, and total outgoings are cheaper in the early years than are those of a constant net repayment mortgage.

From about the 12th year of a low-start mortgage, the repayments increase. With a 13 per cent interest rate, the total paid out over 25 years will be more than £1,000 dearer on every £10,000 borrowed. But for those in a low-paid but secure job, they give a footing on the housing ladder.

This type of loan is available from most banks and as an option at the Halifax, National and Provincial, Guardian and Anglia Building Societies.

Repayment mortgages used to be the cheapest type of home loans, but when mortgage protection policies are added on, and interest rates are low, certain types of endowment mortgage work out cheaper.

This is because an endowment mortgage consists of two parts: the capital loan and an endowment policy. The former is taken out with a lender such as a bank or building society, the latter with an insurance company.

You pay interest only on the capital to your lender. This interest qualifies for tax relief. The policy premiums are paid to the insurance company and at the end of the repayment period you have with a sum which should pay off all the capital borrowed.

Variants of the endowment mortgage, such as with-profits and unit-linked, give higher

sums. A with-profits policy adds bonuses throughout the life of the mortgage. The unit-linked endowment mortgage invests your premiums by buying units in different funds.

Depending on the investment performance of the insurance companies, these endowment variants can not only pay off the capital borrowed at the end of the term, but also give you a lump sum.

The advantages of endowment policies are obvious; their disadvantages are that so much depends on picking out the right insurance company. The top performers in May 1986 over a 10-year period were Standard Life, Scottish Amicable, Scottish Widows, Equitable, Clerical Medical, RNPFN, Tunbridge Wells Equitable, Norwich Union, Ecclesiastical, and Refuge (Money Management).

Another disadvantage of



Your house is probably your greatest investment, but have you got the loan right?

endowment policies is that, unlike repayment mortgages, if you move house in, say, seven years or less, no part of your capital debt would be paid off. You would have to rely on the redemption value of your policy for any gain, or

continue with it when you bought another house.

Pension mortgages are only for those who have taken out a so-called section 226 policy, mainly the self-employed. The outgoings are split between interest payments on the loan and contributions to a pension scheme. At retirement you get a pension and a lump sum to pay off the capital borrowed.

Because contributors can pay up to 17.5 per cent of their earnings (20 per cent if born before 1934) with tax relief at

their highest rates, pension mortgages are tax-efficient, especially for those paying the highest rates of tax.

The major disadvantages are that they cost more and if you retire early or become an employee you cannot get your hands on your money, although some companies will arrange loans for you. Portable pension arrangements may extend the popularity of this fairly new type of mortgage.

Other types of policy are joint mortgages. When two or three sharers get a loan, each will be entitled to the £30,000 tax relief.

There are also mortgages linked to London Inter Bank Offered Rate from United Bank of Kuwait with the mortgage rate at 7/8 per cent above LIBOR and held for three months before a change.

Jennie Hawthorne

Investors are offered the 'forbidden fruits'

BES

A new Business Expansion Scheme scheduled to be launched next week will give private investors access to the so far forbidden fruits of management and leveraged buyouts.

The scheme is a Johnson Fry invention. It is the first BES fund committed to invest in this area which is one that has been traditionally reserved for sizeable financial institutions with a lot of money to spend.

It is potentially a very lucrative area too - and investors in the Johnson Fry Management and Leveraged Buyout Business Expansion Scheme could benefit accordingly.

At the same time it has extra dangers which BES investors normally do not face.

Management and leveraged buyouts simply describe ways of buying one company which is owned by another. The purchasers - who could be the managers of the company or complete outsiders - "buy it out" from the company that owns it.

A leveraged buyout generally describes the situation where a lot of money is borrowed to finance the purchase of the company which is being acquired. Typically these borrowings will be secured on the assets of the company.

A management buyout is often used to describe the same process - except that the management of the company being purchased are buying it themselves from the owners.

Deals of this kind are usually financed not just by bank borrowings but also by institutions - and the management of the company - taking an equity stake in the companies being purchased.

A mixture of debt and equity buys the company - and the Johnson Fry buyout fund aims to provide some of that equity either alone or else alongside equity put in by others.

Typically these others would be other major institutions or the management of the company being bought, or both.

"I want City people to invest in this, not unsophisticated investors," says Charles Fry, chairman of Johnson Fry.

This is why the minimum investment in the fund is £5,000.



Charles Fry: 'I want City people to invest in this'

Much BES investment, by its nature as investment in unquoted companies, involves risk. This fund is perhaps a little riskier than others although the rewards are potentially far greater.

One of the reasons is that if, as is likely, the BES fund invests alongside the management of a company and the institutions backing it, then the fund will have a minority stake only.

The danger is that the company could then do something which stops it from qualifying as a BES company.

There is a lot of money available for buyouts at the moment, but not many good deals around

perhaps the managers and institutions decide to sell out.

They might want to expand into an area of activity not covered under the BES legislation, and this would mean that it ceased to be a BES company.

Johnson Fry will usually have a board representative and it will be a forceful voice for the investors in the fund. But if the fund has only minority stakes that voice can be overruled.

Lawrence Law

Another danger for investors is that if the buyout goes wrong, the interests of the institution which provided the debt to finance the purchase may then become opposed to those of the BES shareholders who have invested in the fund.

The institution may well want to put the company into receivership to effect a sale of the assets and recover as much of its money as possible.

In fairness to Johnson Fry the prospectus does highlight these potential risks pretty clearly.

It also says that it is possible that the fund will invest in just one buyout situation.

There is no front-end load charge to investors in the fund - Johnson Fry will charge target companies 4 per cent of the amount the fund invests, as well as taking options of up to 10 per cent of the stake which the fund takes in a particular company. These will be exercisable at the same price as paid by the fund.

The market for buyouts is pretty competitive - and has been for a number of years. At the moment there is a lot of money available for buyouts but there are not many good deals around. And Johnson Fry has not, to date, effected a management or leveraged buyout.

Mr Fry, however, thinks that the fund will benefit from what he terms as "strong links" with Citibank NA - a major force in buyouts both in this country and the United States. Citibank has indicated its support for the fund but is not a co-sponsor.

Moreover, Mr Fry thinks that he will be able to undercut the competition by offering management better terms than the big players in the market are prepared to pay.

The reasoning is that BES investors in the fund will have the tax relief bonus which will mean they will settle for a lower return than the institutions would be happy with.

The returns still look pretty handsome - if they come off.

Potential investors are certainly being offered an innovative opportunity. If you want to invest in the fund do so with your eyes open. The fund could do brilliantly, and multiply your stake many times.

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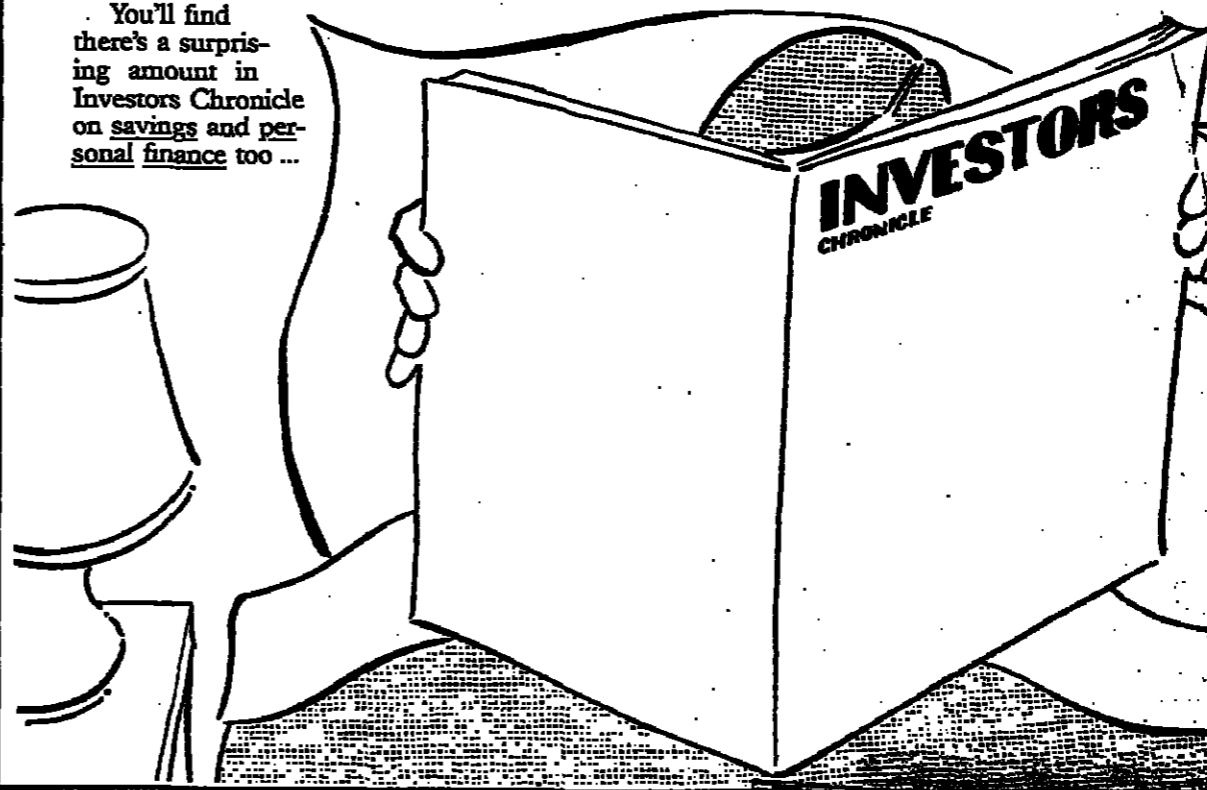
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BIG BANG

Dealers in stocks and shares are in training. Last Saturday the new methods of dealing in government stocks were rehearsed. Next week sees the full-scale mock-up of the new-fangled share trading more or less as it will be after the Big Bang.

Big Bang, in case you were wondering, can be reduced to three main changes. First, the fixed commission charges, by stockbrokers on share deals will go and commissions can be negotiated. Second, "dual capacity" will be abolished. Dual capacity is a division of labour between the stockbroker, who gives investment advice and orders shares on an individual's behalf, and the jobber who makes a living out of physically buying and selling the shares on the Stock Exchange floor. This is known as "making a market".

A further change is the opening up of the Stock Exchange to outsiders; the Japanese and American Securities and American Merrill Lynch are now members. You may not think these changes are cataclysmic, but the City has slowly been thinking it all through and has decided that the consequences will be really dramatic.

Since Big Bang eventually became the property of the financier rather than the astronomer. For the small investor Big Bang should be good news. Provided the computer systems work, a new, quick method of registering share deals will come into operation. A transaction will be effected for just a few pounds. One analyst says: "It should be very nice for the small man - so long as it works."

The City has been flirting with the smaller investor for some time. Several telephone share-dealing services now exist after Hoare Govett introduced its Dealer Call service in July last year. The majority of these provide a simple transaction service. The caller, who must have already applied for membership of the service, simply rings up and places the buy or sell order. No investment advice is given.

The standard term for such services is "no frills". The difficulty with such an epithet is that the whole business of buying and selling shares is a "frilly" and expensive one involving broker, jobber and stamp duty on purchases. Given the built-in costs of this labour-intensive business, telephone share-dealing is a cheap way to deal.

This is certainly the American experience following Wall Street's own Big Bang in 1975. Kleinwort Grieverson's Share Call - available on Freephone - charges £10 for transactions under £605, while Henry Cooke Lumsden's Market Link has a similar charge on deals up to £650. The latter service and Redmayne Bentley's Share Card have a tiered charging structure, starting at just £5 in Market Link and £6 in Share Card.

Hoare Govett's Dealer Call sets a minimum transaction level of £750. Maximums vary. Market Link imposes a ceiling of £25,000, whereas Dealer Call users have no set limit. Nicholas Hamlocke, of Hoare Govett, says: "Many transactions are above the £50,000 level."

David Lumsden, of Henry Cooke Lumsden, says: "We ask our clients to set their own limits on the application forms and then we take up bankers' references. The number of people we have had to turn down is minute. We welcome

people with a modest amount of money who want to deal on the Stock Exchange." So does Redmayne Bentley, which is exceptional in that it offers "a full range of investment advice at every transaction level", according to Allan Collins. The introduction of the Leeds firm's telephone service has seen client numbers rise dramatically from 4,500 to 7,500 in six months.

The future for would-be share owners seems fair enough, always provided the markets do not plunge as they have been threatening to do.

The consensus among the telephone brokers is that negotiated commissions mean lower commissions. Hoare Govett's board is to approve a new charging structure on Monday. No details are yet available but "charges will be going down", says Nicholas Hamlocke. Let's hope share prices do not follow them.

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Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted net of basic rate tax deducted at source (non-reclaimable) 1yr Northampton 7.1 per cent; 2yrs Kirkcaldy 7.25 per cent; 3yrs Manchester 7.25 per cent; 4yrs 2500; 4yrs Bristol 7 per cent; 5yrs Hereford & Worcester 7 per cent; 6yrs York 6.25 per cent; 8yrs 10yrs 13yrs Ely 6.21 per cent, min investment £1,000. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy, Loans Bureau (838 0361 between 10am and 2.30pm) see also Prestel no 24808.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS

Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court International Reserves 0481 26741. Seven days' notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currency. Starting US dollar 8.40 per cent; Yen 5.13 per cent; Swiss Franc 4.25 per cent; D Mark 4.25 per cent; French Franc 6.88 per cent; Swiss Franc 1.74 per cent.

FIND OUT NOW HOW £1,000 CAN GROW TO £140,000 IN JUST 14 YEARS!

Send us your name and address today! By return, we'll post you some fascinating information about making BIG MONEY in unit trusts, which means you spread your investment over a far greater range of companies. We'll also explain HOW this helpful Newsletter can be tried out, AT NO COST OR RISK TO YOU.

To: Unit Trust Newsletter, 3 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1AU. YES: post me full details of the way UNIT can help me turn £1,000 into a fortune. Your FREE Trial Offer is of interest to me! Name: _____ Address: _____ Postcode: _____

INVESTORS NOW SAY 'YES' TO THIS! 15% NET GUARANTEED ONE YEAR RETURN

BRAND NEW PRODUCT. FIRST PUBLIC OFFERING LIMITED TO £3 MILLION

Our Triple Bonus Bond advertisement has attracted attention. Now, with our brand new Security and Growth Bond, we bring you our best offer to date. Investors will have their money invested to secure a guaranteed 1 year return of 15% net* on their account with a leading building society, with the balance invested in an exciting new fund managed by a leading firm of stockbrokers.

This offer may close in days. Do not miss out. Call 0272-276954 for a Reservation Number. Max. Inv. £4,000 * At basic rate tax

University Medical General Ltd. FREEPOST Bristol, BS1 5BR

NAME: _____ ADDR: _____ TEL: _____ TAX RATE % (AGE): _____ AMOUNT AVAILABLE £ 1250 5000 10000 15000 20000 25000 30000 35000 40000 45000 50000

PREMIER SHARES with high interest paid every quarter. PREMIER PACKAGE For full details of our prompt postal service - just send this advertisement with your name and address or telephone at any time. GUARDIAN BUILDING SOCIETY Dept TP, 120 High Holborn, London WC1V 6RH Tel: 01-242 0811 (out-of-hours answerphone) RATES VARIABLE. ASSETS OVER £700 MILLION

The PREMIER rate Paid to your bank every 3 months 8-26% NET OR for maximum return interest can be compounded quarterly to earn 8-51% CAR GROSS EQUIVALENT FOR BASIC RATE TAXPAYERS. Immediate access to balance over minimum holding of £3,000. NO interest penalties. Only one month's notice required to close account. We offer you the strength of the highest reserve ratio amongst the top twenty societies and we operate without branch offices to maintain the lowest cost ratio.

8.55% NET WE CAN'T HOLD THE OFFER FOR EVER

(BUT WE'LL GUARANTEE THE EXTRA FOR SIX MONTHS)

Our new Six Month Term Share isn't the only fixed-term lump sum investment opportunity available at the moment. But you'll do very well to beat our 8.55% net rate (12.04% gross equivalent). All we ask is that you invest a minimum of £5,000 for a minimum of six months. During which period we'll guarantee the 3.30% p.a. differential over and above our ordinary share net rate. And we'll even pay your interest monthly if you wish (8.24% net, 8.55% C.A.R.). Not surprisingly, our new Term Share is a limited issue. But it's available to everyone - first come, first served - right now. For details, simply call in to your local Britannia branch, or send us the coupon.

Please send me full details of your Six Month Term Share as soon as possible. Please send me full details of your higher rates of interest for U.K. Non-Residents. Name: _____ Address: _____ Post Code: _____ Post to: Britannia Building Society, FREEPOST, Newton House, Leek, Staffs. ST13 5ND. *Gross equivalent assuming basic rate tax. †Guaranteed differential 2.7% - Rates subject to change.

DON'T INVEST A PENNY UNTIL YOU'VE CHECKED WITH US BRITANNIA BUILDING SOCIETY, NEWTON HOUSE, LEEK, STAFFS. ST13 5RG. TEL: 0538 385131. ESTABLISHED 1856. A MEMBER OF THE BUILDING SOCIETIES ASSOCIATION. FOR BRANCHES AND AGENTS SEE YOUR LOCAL DIRECTORIES. ASSETS NOW EXCEED £2,500 MILLION.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

All classified advertisements can be accepted by telephone (except Announcements). The deadline is 5.00pm 2 days prior to publication (ie 5.00pm Monday for Wednesday). Should you wish to send an advertisement in writing please include your daytime phone number, CUSTOMER SERVICE DEPARTMENT. If you have any queries or problems relating to your advertisement once it has appeared, please contact our Customer Services Department by telephone on 01-481 4100.

BIRTHDAYS

NEELY LOUIS Congratulations on your 27th birthday from the family. MISS LISA WEDDERBURN In five years old today! Happy Birthdays with love from Mum, Dad and David.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TO JOHN ANTHONY PICTON Your father's death in law from cancer is a great loss. My sympathy to you and your family. I will be at the funeral on Thursday 10th November. The funeral will be held at St. Peter's Church, 100, St. Peter's Street, London E1 1AA. The service will be at 11.00 am. I will be at the church from 10.30 am. My sympathy to you and your family. I will be at the funeral on Thursday 10th November. The funeral will be held at St. Peter's Church, 100, St. Peter's Street, London E1 1AA. The service will be at 11.00 am. I will be at the church from 10.30 am.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

SEARCE: My wife and I wish to thank all the friends and neighbours for their kind letters and expressions of sympathy and condolence in the death of my wife. My sympathy to your families.

WANTED

GOOD QUALITY antique furniture for sale. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

FOR SALE

7 BEDROOM mooring Canal Boat. Excellent condition. Details from IMMEDIATELY. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

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EXCELLENT Furniture Project. Modern kitchen, dining table, chairs, etc. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

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PIANO: Yamaha and Roland. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

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STUNNING: 3 bed. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

CHELSEA & KENSINGTON

PALACE: 4 bed. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

SURREY

PURLEY: 4/5 bed. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

OVERSEAS PROPERTY

GENERAL: 1/2 month. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

GENERAL

WE ARE: Exceptionally good. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

COLLECTORS CARS

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DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS

OPPORTUNITY: In a family. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

WE HAVE: An immediate opening. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

COURSES

PASS YOUR EXAMS: Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE: In reply to an enquiry. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

RENTALS

CHELSEA: 1/2 month. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

RENTALS

HAMPSTEAD: 1/2 month. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

RENTALS

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RENTALS

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RENTALS

LANGLANDS: 1/2 month. Tel: 01-232 2210 or write to M. Dwyer, 25, Southdown Street, London SW11.

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RUGBY UNION: BUSY WEEKEND OF PREPARATION FOR REPRESENTATIVE SIDES

Cornwall will provide stern test for Japan

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

While the Japanese travel to Cornwall in search of the second win of their tour... their only success in five matches so far has been that against the Scottish North and Midlands...



Bailey: no stranger to the right wing

Not all of the England XV members are in action for their clubs today - Simon Halliday, for instance, is recovering from a knock on the heel and, though he was undecided yesterday, may well miss Bath's game against Aberavon...

A welcome for Ulster stalwarts

By George Ace

One of the most potent partnerships in Ulster rugby, David Irwin and Willie Anderson, captain and vice-captain, resumes this afternoon against Yorkshire at Ravenhill after nearly 12 months absence...

Injuries put Hawick on spot

By Ian McLachlan

The most important domestic tournament in Scotland, the McEwan's National League, kicks off this afternoon and Hawick, the first division title-holders, find themselves vulnerable...

TODAY'S TEAM NEWS

Coventry v Leicester: Eddie Saunders returns on the wing for struggling Coventry in this John Smith's merit table A game... Neath v Llanelli: Jonathan Davies misses this game at the Gnuil but has Wales B hooker, Richards available against Llanelli...

Football, rugby and other fixtures

TODAY FOOTBALL

Table of football fixtures for today, including First division, Second division, Third division, and Scottish premier division.

SUSSEX ROYAL ULSTER CHARITY CUP: First round, Arundel v Salisbury, Bournemouth v Southampton...

SOCCER: Premier division: Arsenal v Liverpool, Manchester City v Leicester, Norwich v QPR...

Rugby League

Leigh want to swap Pinner because of a dispute at Leigh. A change of clubs might do both players good, and enable them to bid for Great Britain places against Australia...

Romania short of experience

Romania has announced a largely untried squad for their autumn campaign which includes games against France in Bucharest and Ireland in Dublin. The selectors have included a handful of veterans among the 26-strong line-up to strengthen a forward platform short of international experience...

Rugby Union

Leigh v Wigan: On Humberdale there will be the strangest local derby in years, with neither side doing much in the championship, and both sides providing little support on the terraces...

Tomorrow

Football: Third division: Swindon v Wigan. Fourth division: Lincoln v Hartlepool, Scunthorpe v Wolverhampton. Rugby Union: Cornwall Merit Table: Camborne v Truro, W Cornwall v St Austell...

Law Report October 4 1986 Queen's Bench Division

Damages against insurers for concealing broker's fraud

Banque Keyser Ullmann SA v Skandia (UK) Insurance Co Ltd and others. The claimant, a very wealthy South American family, persuaded syndicates of banks to enter into a series of two-year term agreements with four companies which he owned or controlled. The total amount borrowed was 80 million Swiss francs. The principal security offered in support of each loan was a pledge of gemstones valued by the Gemmological Institut Antwerpen (GIA) at SF198 million but which were worth only SF75 million, and a credit insurance policy for SF97.3 million on which the banks primarily relied...

potentially highly prejudicial to the banks. He knew that Mr Lee was the banks' sole source of information as to the cover, past and future, and that he could not be trusted. He knew that the banks were unaware of Mr Lee's dishonest conduct and had no means of discovering it. He appreciated that the banks were exposed on the first loan and all subsequent transactions, particularly in the light of the fraud exclusion clause and the choice to enter into further contracts of insurance with the banks knowing that the banks were exposed to a concealed risk...

an underwriter's duty in such circumstances. Finally, if a duty was held to exist, it might be held to expose the banks to a claim in the London insurance market. Cumulatively, those policy considerations cogently supported the existence of a duty of care and for the facts relating to Mr Lee's dishonesty in issuing the false cover notes had been made, none of the banks would have entered into any further loans, after June 1980. But his Lordship was not satisfied that if the banks had discovered the deception in June 1980, they would have called in the first loan. Thus, there was no causal connection between the insurers' breach of duty and the banks' losses in respect of that loan. The banks' losses were not too remote, they were reasonably foreseeable, and there were no policy considerations militating against the imposition of liability on the insurers for the losses. In relation to Chemical Bank alone, their damages for breach of duty of care would be reduced by 50 per cent because, before making their loan, they had received assessments from the gemvaluers, GIA, and manager, Mr Verbruggen, which were critical of their expertise and integrity. It followed that Hodge, being vicariously liable for Mr Dugate's non-disclosure to the relevant banks in respect of the second but not the first loan, and that Skandia, who subsequently employed Mr Dugate, were liable to the relevant banks in respect of their losses on the remaining three loans. Solicitors: Hopkins & Wood; Slaughter & May; Herbert Smith.

RACING: STARKEY'S MOUNT HAS PROVEN STAMINA FOR LONGCHAMP

Shardari looks best value to give British Arc triumph

By Michael Seely

Greville Starkey and Shardari can prove too strong for Pat Eddery and Dancing Brave in a dramatic climax to tomorrow's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe...



Shardari, one of four Aga Khan runners for tomorrow's big race, is fancied to reverse Ascot's King George running with another top British hope, Dancing Brave

New plea for slow over-rate penalty

From Richard Streeton Delhi

The Australians will make a renewed plea for monetary fines to be introduced when they meet Indian officials today in Ahmedabad about slow over-rates in the present one-day international series...

Brown the answer to a chairman's prayer

By Clive White

Loyalty is a word that is as much out of place in today's football vocabulary as inside forward or wing half. Even managers who profess to regard themselves with the same lack of attachment as the nomads among our players...



Brown: loyalty and integrity were drawn inexorably towards the bigger clubs

Spot check on Forest power

But Clough affords Atkinson no sympathy. "I can't be concerned if they lose and Atkinson is in the dock queue on Monday. Manchester United are the biggest team in Europe and I think Ron will pull out of trouble..."

WEEKEND TEAM NEWS

Chelsea v Charlton: Macdonald, on loan to Charlton, is expected to make his debut if Stuart's ankle does not recover... Watford v West Ham: West Ham, without the injured Martin (who is also suspended) and Pike, name Kevin Keen as his substitute...

French thank Sainsbury

The French government has honoured Sainsbury, the supermarket chain, for helping to diminish the French wine lake by selling bottles at bargain prices...

United sign O'Brien

Manchester United have signed 21-year-old Liam O'Brien, from Shamrock Rovers. United will pay £50,000 immediately and then instalments of up to another £100,000...

Full club draw for Europe

Zurich - The full draw of matches to be played on a home and away basis on October 22 and November 5 with the first named teams at home in the first leg is:

United sign O'Brien

O'Brien, an unemployed inter-club, already has one full international cap and is in the Republic of Ireland squad for the European championship match against Scotland on October 15.

United sign O'Brien

Neville Bosworth and Harry Parkes yesterday resigned from the board of second division Birmingham City in a continuation of the upheavals which began when chairman Ken Wheddon bought control of the club last December...

United sign O'Brien

Lokomotiv Cup: Lokomotiv Leipzig v Rapid Vienna; Real Zaragoza v Middlesbrough; Vissel Kobe v Vissel Kobe; Torpedo Moscow v Torpedo Moscow; Dinamo Tbilisi v Dinamo Tbilisi; Spartak Trnava v Spartak Trnava; Olympiacos Piraeus v Olympiacos Piraeus.

United sign O'Brien

Report, page 40

Stoute set for two more prizes at Longchamp

Michael Seely, the trainer of Shardari and Shahrastani, can enjoy an afternoon of glory by also winning his second Prix de l'Abbaye, with Green Desert, and the Prix Marcel Boussac with Milligram...

Pakistan give World XI a trouncing

Kuwait (Reuters) - A Pakistan XI trounced a world selection team who were depleted by the absence of three West Indies Test players in the first of two one-day cricket benefit matches...

BIG-RACE FIELD

SELECTIONS: Mandarin (Michael Phillips); Bering, Michael Seely; Shardari, The Times Private Handicapper; Shahrastani, Draw: low numbers best

Table with columns for race number, horse name, jockey, and odds. Races include Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, 255 Prix Marcel Boussac, and 335 Prix de l'Abbaye.

The odds displayed in our Card are the latest British prices. On the pari-mutuel, the Aga Khan's four runners will be coupled. Channel 4's presentation begins at 4.10 and includes recordings of the Prix de l'Abbaye and Prix Marcel Boussac in addition to live coverage of the Arc.

MOTOR RACING

Britain's title assured

From a Special Correspondent, Fuji

While Nigel Mansell still has to wait a week for his chance to clinch the formula one drivers' title in Mexico, Britain should have champion tomorrow when Derek Bell and Derek Warwick contest the final round of the World Sports Prototype Championship...

JUDO

Paying a price for success

By Nicolas Soames

Victory in the European club championships could place Britain's leading competitive side, Wolverhampton, in serious financial difficulties according to their coach Malcolm Abbotts...

KARATE

Silver for bruised but unbowed Miss Samuel

By Nicolas Soames

Molly Samuel, the British middleweight, aged 25, won an unexpected silver medal on the first day of the world championships in Sydney, Australia yesterday despite being hampered by a shoulder injury sustained in pre-competition training...

MOTOR RACING

Britain's title assured

After the first practice session both Warwick and his team colleague, Eddie Cheever, were well down the field, which is headed by the private Brun Motorsport Porsches from Switzerland. The Bell/Stuck car is third fastest, despite the handicap of the extra weight of the new ABS anti-lock braking system, which is being raced for the first time...

JUDO

Paying a price for success

The team championship is as close a contest as that for drivers, with Porsche, Brun and Jaguar in contention. With the launch of the new XJ40 road car just a few days away, victory would indeed be sweet for the British manufacturer...

KARATE

Silver for bruised but unbowed Miss Samuel

Nevertheless, the result, coming after winning the European championships, confirms that Miss Samuel has taken over the mantle of Beverley Morris, the former European champion, who retired last year in style. Today Britain's outstanding men's team fight to retain the team title won in the past two world championships. Ticky Donovan, the British team manager, has, as expected, relied on experience rather than youth in his choice of the seven-man team, from which five will be chosen to contest each round...

MOTOR RACING

Britain's title assured

It has been a difficult year for Warwick, who accepted the drive with the Tom Walkinshaw-managed Jaguar team after failing to secure a formula one place at the beginning of the season. Following the death of Elio de Angelis in a testing accident in May, he signed for the Brabham team, but the car has proved to be uncompetitive and he has failed to score any points.

Saturday

Weekend television and radio programmes Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

Sunday

BBC 1

- 8.30 The Family-Heads. Cartoons. (r) 8.35 The Muppet Babies. Saturday SuperStore managed by Mike Read...

TV-AM

- 6.55 TV-am introduced by Mike Morris. Weather at 6.58. 7.30 The Wide Awake Club includes David Frost talking about his new book...

ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 No 73. Entertainment for the evening 11.00 Knight Rider. Michael Knight enters KITT in a tough, 2,000 mile road race...



Lady Wedgwood: The Secret Life of Paintings, on BBC 2, 6.20pm

BBC 2

- 9.00 Cee-fax. 9.45 Open University. 1.30 Cee-fax. 2.00 Film: Judgment at Nuremberg (1951) starring Spencer Tracy...

CHANNEL 4

- 1.05 The Hooper Bloob Highway. Cartoon. 1.30 Channel 4 Reading from Newcastle. The Carlsberg Trophy (1.45)...

BBC 1

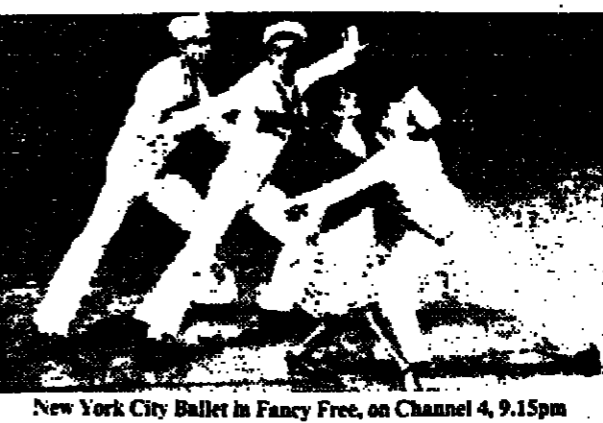
- 8.55 Play School. 9.15 Articles of Faith. 10.00 Aslan Magazine. The world of ballet as seen through the eyes of Nicola Krause...

TV-AM

- 6.55 TV-am begins with Sunday Comment. 7.00 Are You Awake Yet? The Wide Awake Club. 8.30 David Frost on Sunday...

ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 Wake Up London. The Vicious Boys investigate the noble art 9.35 Roger Ramjet. Cartoon. 9.45 Bugs Bunny. Cartoon. News from the Church of St John the Evangelist...



New York City Ballet in Fancy Free, on Channel 4, 9.15pm

BBC 2

- 9.00 Cee-fax. 1.00 International Golf. The final of the Suntory World Match Play Championship from the West Course, Wentworth...

CHANNEL 4

- 12.30 Major League Baseball. The first of a new series. An introduction to the rules of the sport which will be covered on this Channel. Presented by Martin Tyler...

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.3kHz/285m; 108.9kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 121.5kHz/247m VHF-90...

Radio 4

- On long wave. (s) Stereo on VHF. 5.55 Shipping. 6.00 News Briefing. Weather. 6.10 Prelude. Music (s). 6.30 News. Farming. 6.50 Prayer. 6.55 Questions from Rutland Natural History Society...

Radio 2

- 9.29 Fish at the Door: eating and drinking. With Stephen Thorne, Richard Derrington and Michael N Harbour. 9.40 Twilight of the Gods: Act 3. 11.10 The Jazz Pianist: Charles Fox presents recordings featuring Jack Byard and Howard Riley...

Radio 3

- 6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Audelia: Basil (Barbar de Seville overture). Glazunov (Violin Concerto, with Healey, soloist). Tordella (Sonata for two guitars and castanets). Puccini (Chi il bel sogno di Doretta: Kiri is Kanawa). Strauss (Sonata in E flat). Mozart (Sonata in D, K 448: Parahai/Lupu). Nielsen (Piano piece Pan and Syrinx). Guonini (Overimanto, Op 52).

Radio 1

- 6.00am Mark Page. 6.00 Peter Powell. 10.00 Dave Lee Travis. 1.00am Adrian Justice. 2.00 City to City. Mark Page is driven around Glasgow by Midge Live. 3.00 The American Chart Show with Gary Byrd. 5.00 Saturday Live (Andy Kershaw). 7.30 Simon Mayo. 8.30-12.00am Night Owls (Dave Gelly). 1.00am Jean Chalix. 3.00-4.00am Nording Rendezvous.

Radio 4

- 5.00 News. Travel. 5.05 Fund's 25th Anniversary. News. 5.15 Your Way. Brian Johnston visits Peter Johnson, Hampshire. 5.50 Shipping. 6.00 News Briefing. Weather. 6.10 Prelude. Music (s). 6.30 News. Morning News. Broken (Hymns). 6.55 Weather. Travel. 7.00 News. 7.10 Sunday Papers. 7.15 Andy Hill. 7.45 Bells. 7.50 Turning Over New Leaves. 7.55 Weather. Travel. 8.00 News. 8.10 Sunday Papers. 8.15 Sunday. Religious news. 8.50 David Bellamy appeals on behalf of the Marine Conservation Society. 8.55 Weather. Travel. 9.00 News. 9.10 Sunday Papers. 9.15 Letter from America, by Alison Alexander and Ayla Clarke. Chaired by Dick Taverne QC. Before the reading of the Day. The late evening Office of Complaints (BBC 2). 9.30 News. 9.35 The People. 20th-century revival of English folk song. Short Stories. Pieces in Honour. By Dr Barsham. Reader: Gerard Green. 10.00 News. Weather. 10.23 Shipping. News. Gardeners' Question Time. Experts tackle questions sent in by post. 10.55 Theatre. An Enemy of the People, by Ibsen. Simultaneous transmission with BBC World Service. With Michael Williams. Ronald Pickup and John Moffatt (s). News. Coming of Age. Three 18 month olds from Northern Ireland discuss their attitudes to the troops, the police and the army. 11.00 The Natural History Programme. Fergus Collins on the events taking place in Assisi to celebrate the World Wildlife...

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BEATLES SCOTCH WHISKY. SCOTLAND'S NUMBER ONE QUALITY SCOTCH WHISKY. Advertisement featuring a bottle of James Watson & Co. Scotch Whisky and the Beatles logo.

SPORT

British hopes are still alive after Lyle's late stand

By Mitchell Platt

Sandy Lyle recovered from the brink of defeat in the Suntory world match-play championship at Wentworth yesterday as Severiano Ballesteros beat a hasty and unexpected retreat.

Jacklin eventually lost that pulsating contest but Lyle's 11th-hour victory keeps alive the prospect of a first British success in a championship.

Second round results

Table with 2 columns: Match and Score. Includes matches like R Davis (AUS) vs S Ballesteros (SP), J Lyle (GB) vs T Nakajima (JPN) etc.

record of 18 birdies and four eagles established by Tony Jacklin and Lee Trevino in 1972.



Happy in his work: Lyle enjoys himself at Wentworth yesterday (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Pleat caught in middle after Claesen stalls

By Clive White

The alleged "needle" match between Tottenham Hotspur and Luton Town has been blunted by the loss of leading forwards on both sides.

Suspension for Stein of Luton

the summer, they will be without Brian Stein, his fellow forward, because of suspension. Luton will decide this morning whether to risk Harford, who has played in two reserve games in the last week.

RUGBY UNION Bishop suspended but he will seek 'justice' in court

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The Welsh Rugby Union announced yesterday that David Bishop, the Pontypool scrum half, has been suspended from playing rugby until September 1 next year.

that is the only way to get them to change their mind. It is a travesty as far as I am concerned. To be banned until next season has knocked me for six.

Douglas dazzles at last

Kitrina Douglas, the former British amateur champion from Bristol ended a two-year lean spell by winning the Mitsubishi Colt Cars Jersey Open Championship at Royal Jersey yesterday.

which is now in its 23rd year. There was little to choose between Lyle and Nakajima in the morning, when both players were round in 65, as they exchanged each of the first six holes, then four more on the inward half.

RACING

No luck of the draw

Dancing Brave, Britain's leading contender for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, has been given the worst possible draw for tomorrow's race at Longchamp.

watered the course at Longchamp yesterday. The other British challengers - Shahrazadani, Shardi and Dithian - are better drawn in stalls nine, five and four respectively.

SHOOTING

Five-year ban for McDonald

By John Goodbody

The Scottish Shooting Council has banned Robin McDonald, the pistol marksman, for five years because he took beta-blockers during the Commonwealth Games last July.

Australia defer SA tour

The Australian Rugby Union deferred yesterday a decision on whether to accept an invitation to tour South Africa next year (David Hands writes). No decision will be made until after an ARU delegation has met Bill Hayden, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and possibly not until next year.

been invited to participate in the World Cup. Australia also have a tour to Argentina next autumn in the pipeline. Clearly their popularity is high; ironically they have invited the Soviet Union for a five-match tour next year, ending in a full international at the Sydney Cricket Ground on May 17 - six days before Australia's first World Cup match, against England.

Celtic to face Russians Souness is worry at Rangers

Celtic found themselves facing the most formidable assignment of their European Cup history following the draw yesterday when they were drawn to meet Dynamo Kiev in the second round of this year's tournament.

For Rangers, much will depend on whether Graeme Souness is fit, although Rangers also have worries over Fraser, Ferguson, Durrant and McMinn. Hearts may be without Foster, their eager forward, but there is hope Kidd, that redoubtable defender, will be ready.

There is unlikely to be a change at the top. Even without Nancy, who is injured, Dundee United should have little difficulty, following their latest triumph in Europe in beating Falkirk at Tannadice and staying in the lead. They showed in their defeat of Lens in the UEFA Cup that the quiet revolution mounted by Jim McLean, the manager, is succeeding.

CYCLING

Kelly takes overall lead in classic

Sean Kelly twice survived mechanical problems yesterday to emerge as the leader of the Nissan Classic at the end of a demanding day's racing. "I had to take the lead otherwise they wouldn't have let me into Carrick tomorrow," quipped the rider from Carrick-on-Suir, after out-sprinting the overnight leader Steve Bauer, of Canada.

leg around the Ring of Kerry earlier in the day. RESULTS: Stage 3A: Trippel to Killarney, 10 miles; 1. S. Anderson, 2. R. S. Jones, 3. S. Kelly, 4. S. Bauer, 5. R. Kelly, 6. S. Kelly, 7. A. Van der Post, 8. G. LeMond, 9. S. Jones, 10. S. Kelly, 11. P. Anderson, 12. S. Kelly, 13. A. Van der Post, 14. M. Elliott, 15. Van der Post.

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SNOOKER Hughes fights back after early setback

By a Correspondent

Eugene Hughes, who beat the three-times world champion Steve Davis in the previous round, revealed his determination to reach the BCE £175,000 international final as he recovered from a slow start to lead Neal Foulds in their semi-final match at Stoke yesterday.

Hudson is rebuffed

Tim Hudson, Lancashire's millionaire cricket supporter, has lost his fight to oust the county club chairman, Cedric Rhoades. Hudson wanted to take over at Old Trafford and tried to persuade Ian Botham and Viv Richards to play for Lancashire for two years.

Running plan

Rob de Castella, the world champion, will run in the New York City marathon for the first time next month when he seeks to enhance his reputation as one of the great long-distance runners. He has won eight of the 14 marathons he has run over eight years, including this year's Boston and Commonwealth events.

Team award

The Avia Watches Woman Golfer of the Year award has been won by the Britain and Ireland Curtis Cup team and their captain Diane Bailey.

SPORT IN BRIEF

which the team to play France B at Pontypool on October 25 will be chosen. Holland, aged 25, plays for Glamorgan Wanderers.

Hudson: misses out. Rob de Castella, the world champion, will run in the New York City marathon for the first time next month when he seeks to enhance his reputation as one of the great long-distance runners.